

Spiritual Healing and Deliverance Going to the Root to Destroy the Works of the Enemy

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Introduction

In Isaiah 61:1, the prophet Isaiah foretold of the coming of the Messiah. In Luke 4:18 Jesus declared that He had fulfilled this prophesy:

The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me; Because He has anointed Me To preach the Gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives; And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed.

This was Jesus' mission statement. It was the reason for His coming to earth. Jesus came to save us and set us free.

For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil. 1 John 3:8

The Righteous Race:

We as believers in Jesus Christ have a race set before us:

Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight and the sin that so easily ensnares us, and **let us run with endurance the race that is set before us**, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that set before Him, endured the cross, despising the shame, and sat down at the right hand of the Father. Hebrews 12:1-2

We are called to bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the Nations. We have a race set before:

And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Matthew 28:18-19

Every person has been given an assignment or calling by God. The purpose of the calling is to advance the Kingdom of God on Earth. It is to destroy the works of the devil and to bring God's Kingdom to as many as possible.

Trees of Righteousness:

The Lord said through the prophet Isaiah that He was coming to give us beauty for ashes, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness: That we might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that He may be glorified. Isaiah 61:3

God has called us to be trees of righteousness, for His glory. God wants us to come into perfection, to become more like Jesus every day.

But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord. 2 Corinthians 3:18

God wants His Church – that means us – to be righteous – without spot or blemish:

That He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she be holy and without blemish. Ephesians 5:27

Our goal is to day-by-day remove anything that is not like Jesus Christ from our lives – the spots wrinkles and blemishes. Will this happen all at once, on day one? Of course not. But we must persevere until the end of the race. The Apostle Paul knew that he was not at the stage of perfection, but he was always stretching to be more like Christ and serve Him in all he did.

Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended, but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to the things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Jesus Christ. Philippians 3:13-14

We must constantly be pressing ahead to be all that God wants us to be, as did the Apostle Paul. Only then can we run with endurance the race that is set before us.

Let Us Cast Off Every Hindrance:

God wants us to be effective ministers for Him. He has a job for each of us to do. But how can we do this when we have spiritual issues that hinder us? How can we run the race God has set before us when we are weighed down with spiritual, physical and emotional problems?

For instance, some Christians have bitterness and unforgiveness towards others or themselves. Some have rejection, fear or envy. These are spiritual issues that hold us back from becoming all that God wants us to be. They are spots and blemishes. They hinder us from running the race and fulfilling our calling. They also can steal our health, our joy and our peace. Remember, Satan does have a plan for your life and it is:

To kill, steal and destroy. John 10:10

Satan accomplishes his plan greatly through various spirits, such as bitterness, covetousness fear, rejection, etc. Some Christians do not believe that they can be oppressed by evil spirits once they become saved and filled with the Holy Spirit. However, this is not supported by the Scripture or our personal experience.

The Apostle Paul admonished the believers at Corinth to:

Cleanse themselves from all filthiness of the flesh <u>and spirit</u>, perfecting holiness in the fear of God. 2 Corinthians 7:1

We do know that Christians cannot be "possessed" by evil spirits or demons. Possession involves control of the person's spirit. It involves ownership of a person by a spirit. This is not possible with a Christian. Our spirits are under the ownership of God when we become saved, and so we cannot be taken over by evil spirits without our consent. However, we Christians can and do embrace or allow evil spirits to have access in our lives. We can allow evil spirits to shape our thinking, our actions, our health, etc.

Many Christians already had demons in their lives before they became saved. Many have been abused and have allowed rejection, guilt and shame to torment them. Many have been hurt deeply and have given way to spirits of bitterness. There is nothing in the Scripture that tells us when we become saved, all demons automatically leave. To the contrary, in Acts Chapter 8 we read of Philip's evangelism of Samaria. Simon the sorcerer believed on Jesus and was baptized. However, later when Peter and John arrived, Peter pointed out to Simon that he was poisoned with bitterness and bound by iniquity. This was after Simon's salvation and baptism.

We also know from experience and common sense that issues we had before we were saved do not automatically go away upon salvation. People with depression, fear, bitterness, etc. become saved and still have depression, fear, bitterness and other issues. We must take hold of the promises of God once we become saved. Just because we are saved does not mean physical disease automatically leaves us. We have to purposefully appropriate healing. Just because we are saved does not mean demons leave us. We must purposefully appropriate deliverance.

We also know that sin can bring demonic activity into our lives. Sin is an open door for Satan to oppress us. God's protection of us is dependent upon our obedience to Him. Disobedience (sin) means that we have forfeited protection in that area and given the enemy a right to harass us.

Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatever a man sows, that he shall also reap. Galatians 6:7

God uses this to bring us back into His perfect will. When we confess that sin and turn from it, we are forgiven and can be delivered.

If we walk in the light, as He is in the light, if we have fellowship with one another; the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 7-9

We have seen Christians delivered of a great variety of spiritual issues. Many wonderful and devout Christians have been through this ministry. Many pastors have been through it. They have received healing and deliverance and so can you if you open yourself up to it.

Finally, we have also experienced deliverance ourselves since we have begun this ministry. God is not through with us yet, but we press on to the upward call in Christ Jesus. We can tell you

from our own experience that you can rid yourself of every spiritual weight that is hindering your completion of the race that God has set before you. Keep reading and keep an open mind, and you will see changes in your life.

Root Work

The Lord has called us to be trees of righteousness. Our roots are to be planted in Jesus Christ, for His glory. However, many of us have roots that are not righteous. These roots have been planted by the devil and need to be removed so that we can grow deeper and deeper in Jesus.

The lessons in this book each deal with a different spiritual issue or "root". These spiritual issues are likened to roots because they can grow very deep within us. This is especially so if we have issues from childhood like abuse and abandonment. Once a spiritual root has taken hold, it can grow and branch off and bear a variety of evil fruit. You will see this explained throughout the lessons.

Each lesson explains the main "root" or strongman spirit. Under these main roots are branches of the evil tree. These spirits that we refer to as branches are underling spirits that answer to the strongman/root. When you undertake the ministry and deliverance section of each root, you will be pulling out the roots and the underlings.

Many Christians who have spiritual and emotional problems attempt to deal with the symptoms of the problem. For instance, if a Christian has depression, he may go to the doctor to get medications to deal with depression and keep on functioning. This may work to keep us going, but we are really just putting a band aid over the problem. It is superficial. This ministry attempts to get you to go to the root of your problem and with the Lord's help, deal with it at that level. Depression is often a manifestation of a deep root of rejection. So, if you remove the root of rejection, depression will have to go along with it.

The key is to repent, and then kill (remove) the root and all of the evil branches and fruit. We need to remove everything that the enemy has planted in our lives. Only then can we fulfill the destiny we have in Jesus Christ.

One note before we get going, please know that we do believe in the medical field. Doctors and other medical professionals have done wonders for us and for many people. Medications have assisted many people with the quality of their lives. However, God has provided a way for you whereby you can be healed completely of your problems and afflictions. Please do not forgo your prescription medications and physician visits until you have confirmation that you are healed and no longer need them. Keep your physicians in the loop with your healing and deliverance and get their approval to discontinue any medications you are currently taking. This is not a lack of faith, this is wisdom.

Chapter 1

The Root of Bitterness

The Bible tells us in Hebrews to be cautious so that no bitter root springs up in us:

Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord: looking carefully lest any fall short of the grace of God; lest any *root of bitterness* springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled. Hebrew 12:14-15

The Apostle Paul in Ephesians said:

Let all *bitterness* and wrath and anger and clamor and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. Ephesians 4:31

The spirit of Bitterness is the Root. From this Root grow various branches (underlings). They are:

Unforgiveness

The spirit of Unforgiveness has an assignment - it is to keep you from forgiving - to keep you in a state of unforgiveness. It teams up with spirits that replay memories to remind you of the bad things that happened to you. The enemy knows that if he can keep you from forgiving, he can separate you from God. Because God tells us that forgiveness is commanded:

For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your heavenly Father forgive your trespasses. Matthew 6:14-15

Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you. Ephesians 4:32

This passage in Ephesians tells us that God is our example of forgiveness. Because He forgave us of everything, we must forgive everything.

So harboring unforgiveness goes against a direct command from God - it keeps God from forgiving us - and it may be a block to healing.

But your iniquities have separated you from your God, and your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear. Isaiah 59:2

What if the person who has wronged you is still in your life? What if he continues to treat you cruelly?

Then Peter came to Him and said, Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him, up to seven times?" Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven. Matthew 18:21-22

We must continue to forgive people who continue to hurt us. This does not mean we must take abuse from people. Spouses who are abused need to have a safe place of refuge. Sometimes we need to assess the friends we have and the other people in our lives. But this does not change the fact that continuing forgiveness is commanded, even if we decide we must to remove people from our lives.

Sometimes the person who we need to forgive has died or we cannot or should not contact them. You must still forgive this person, even if you cannot tell them. Simply tell God in prayer that you forgive this person.

At times, we have been hurt so badly that we really do not want to forgive, or have a very hard time forgiving. If this is the case with you, pray to the Lord and ask Him to give you a desire to forgive. Ask Him to help you take the first step in forgiving. If you can open the door just this far, God will be faithful to help you to come to forgiveness.

<u>Self-Unforgiveness</u>: Sometimes the person we need to forgive is ourselves. Many of us have done things in the past that have greatly hurt others. We have a hard time forgiving ourselves. However, God has forgiven us and so we must forgive ourselves. Ask God to help you do this.

The Root is Bitterness - the Trunk is Unforgiveness

You cannot just trim some of the branches of the tree that is Bitterness - you must first go after the trunk - take the tree down by the trunk of unforgiveness. When you take down the tree by the trunk, all the branches and fruit will come down with it. Then you can kill the root.

Indignation/Resentment

The spirit of Indignation will often follow Unforgiveness. If we refuse to forgive, it will often escalate into Indignation. This is a spirit of Resentment and ill-will.

When the woman anointed Jesus' head with the expensive alabaster oil, the Book of Mark tells us:

But there were some who were indignant among themselves, and said, "why was this fragrant oil wasted. For it might have been sold for more than 300 denarii and given to the poor." And they criticized her sharply. Mark 14:3-5

Just after Pentecost, the Apostles worked many signs and wonders. Many sick were brought into the streets and even the shadow of Peter passing by healed them.

Then the High Priest rose up, and all those who were with him, and they were filled with indignation, and laid their hands on the apostles and put them in the common prison. Acts 5:17

Indignation stands on unforgiveness. It makes you feel that the person you are holding something against is undeserving of good things. It makes you want to avoid that person - not want to look at them. You might get a sickly feeling in your stomach when you see them. You resent them and what they did to you.

Revenge/Retaliation

This is a spirit of getting even - settling the score. This spirit wants to use you to hurt others, and it wants to hurt you. The spirit of Revenge will work to get you to put a plan into place for getting even. It is a spirit of premeditation. Your thoughts can become consumed with what this person did to you and with getting even.

As Jesus was making his way to Jerusalem, he entered a village of the Samaritans, but this village did not receive Jesus. When his disciples James and John saw that Jesus was not received they said,

"Lord do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them, just as Elijah did". Jesus turned and rebuked them and said, "You do not know what manner of spirit you are of." Luke 9:54-55

How many times have we desired to call down fire from heaven on those who hurt us? If we are honest, we would have to admit, probably plenty of times. This is the nature of our flesh. But we are called to a higher level as believers.

Jesus dealt with this attitude of revenge in Matthew:

You have heard that it was said, an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. But I tell you not to resist an evil person. But whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him as well. Matthew 5:38-39

Love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who spitefully use you and persecute you. Matthew 5:44

We can only do this through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Fury/Anger/Wrath

The spirit of Anger is not a secretive spirit. Its personality desires to be seen and heard. It may manifest as red face, clenched fists, and gritted teeth. It often causes a burning sensation.

But Queen Vashti refused to come at the king's command, brought by his eunuchs, therefore the king was furious, and his anger burned within him. Esther 1:12

The Lord tells us not to allow anger to burn within us - not to allow anger to even remain with us overnight.

Be angry and sin not, let not the sun go down upon your wrath. Ephesians 4:26

The Lord knows how destructive anger can be. It unleashes hormones and chemicals in our body that could cause disease and infirmities. Anger allows further escalation to occur against the person who we feel wronged us.

<u>Hatred</u>

Hatred is a consuming spirit. It will fill you with thoughts of this other person. You cannot get them out of your mind. You mull over why you hate them, what they did to you, what they deserve back and how you are going to get them back. There is nothing good you can think of to say about this person. You desire to harm this other person in some way. They are your enemy.

Whoever hates his brother is murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him. 1 John 3:15

Violence/Rage

The spirits of Violence and Rage are action demons. They are at peace when manifesting an action such as screaming, hitting, kicking, throwing things. The enemy will not let you sit in unforgiveness forever. He wants to escalate the violence.

In Luke 6:6-11 the Scribes and Pharisees watched Jesus to see if He would heal on the Sabbath. When He did, they were filled with rage and discussed with one another what they might do to Jesus.

The enemy will keep pressing you to take action against this other person. The enemy wants to harm you and this other person through rage and violence.

A good example of this is Joseph and his brothers. Their unforgiveness and indignation against Joseph eventually escalated into rage and attempted murder. See Genesis Ch 37.

Another example is King Saul and David. Saul's jealousy lead to anger against David. Eventually, Saul went into a fit of rage and threw a spear at David. Saul then put a plan into place to kill David. See 1 Samuel Chapters 18-20.

<u>Murder</u>

The spirit of Murder desires to have you commit actual murder - the taking of the life of another. This could be murder against another person, or it could be suicide, murder against you. This spirit will also have you assassinate the character of another through slander and gossip.

Or, if you just plan the murder in your heart, without actually doing it, this is like the real thing in God's eyes. Matthew 5:28 (as with adultery)

The Root of Bitterness

May be against:

You - you must forgive yourself and allow God to forgive you.

<u>God</u> - do not hold unforgiveness against God for things you believe He did or should have stopped from happening to you. Many people hold a grudge against God, are angry at God, for the things of Satan's Kingdom - sickness, disease, hurt, abuse, etc.

<u>Others</u> - you must forgive everyone who has ever hurt you or let you down. This does not mean it is ok what they did to you. It is not. You just forgive the person and give them over to God. God will deal with them and the sin. You can hate the sin, and still forgive the sinner. Others may also include institutions such as the government, schools, churches, etc.

Be resolved from this day forward to not take offense to anything or anyone and to not harbor unforgiveness ever again. Make it a lifestyle. As you walk in forgiveness, it becomes easier and easier - it becomes your personality - a way of life!

Ministry for The Root of Bitterness

In order to complete deliverance from Bitterness and all of its branches (underlings), you should now pray the following prayer of repentance and renunciation: Say this prayer out loud:

Father God, I repent for and renounce the Root of Bitterness and all its underlings in my life and coming through my generations. In the name of Jesus Christ, I now break covenant with the Root of Bitterness and all its underlings. I ask for forgiveness and that all curses be broken in the name of Jesus Christ.

Pray the following prayers of forgiveness out loud:

• Father God, today I choose to forgive myself for everything that I have ever done to offend you or others. I thank you for forgiving me and for allowing me to finally forgive myself.

•Father God, today I forgive everyone who has ever hurt me or let me down. Specifically, I forgive ______ (name the people you forgive). I choose today to let them off the hook and to turn them over to you. Thank you for helping me to forgive these people.

•Father God, I ask for forgiveness for the times I held it against you when things did not go well for me. Thank you for never giving up on me.

For each of the following spirits, speak the following prayer out loud:

In the name of Jesus Christ, I take authority over the spirit of ______ and I break your power over my life. In the name of Jesus Christ I cast out the spirit of ______ and order it to leave me now.

Root: Bitterness and Self-Bitterness

| Underlings: | |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Unforgiveness | Offense |
| Indignation/Resentment | Grudge |
| Revenge/Retaliation | Strife |
| Fury/Anger/Wrath | Contention |
| Hatred | Division |
| Rage/Violence | Spirit of Infirmity |
| Murder | Spirits of Death and Destruction |

I know break all generational curses coming through bitterness and all programming for bitterness, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Now pray the following prayer out loud:

Father God, thank you for my healing and deliverance from the Root of Bitterness. Help me to stay free from this spirit and all of its underlings. And now Father God, I pray for a fresh filling of the Holy Spirit to fill me and take the place of all the spirits that have been cast out. Fill me completely with the Holy Spirit, in Jesus' name I pray.

Chapter 2

The Root of Accusation

To accuse is:

To call to account

 $\cdot\;$ To charge with a fault or offense

 \cdot To blame

Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary, ©1977

The Bible calls Satan, the *accuser of the brethren*. Revelation 12:10. Thus, we know that the Root of Accusation comes from Satan, not from God. Satan will use accusation against everyone: You, others, God, even institutions.

The Personality of the Accusing Spirit:

<u>Blame</u>

Accusation is the king of the "blame game". The Root is Accusation and the trunk is Blame. Blame must be destroyed, must be cut down completely before the other branches and fruit of Accusation can be defeated.

Blame is so destructive because it keeps us from taking responsibility for our lives and moving ahead. The spirit of Blame will always point you to someone or something else who is at fault for your problems.

Your husband just does not understand you. Your boss is too demanding. He just asks too much of you. The government should not have denied your claim. Now what are you going to do? That was your last hope. Your pastor is too hard. He expects you to be perfect. Who does he think he is? Your parents really messed you up the way they brought you up. You never had a chance. Your high school did not teach you the things you needed.

Racism teams up with Blame to place blame on other races for where we are in life. It goes in all directions. You hear all races blaming other races. It is very effective to keep us stuck in our tracks because now the spirit of Bitterness can team up with Racism and Blame and really tie us down.

When the enemy can get you pointing your finger at someone else, he has trapped you in a jail cell of Blame. Your situation will not change and you will not change, as long as it is someone else's fault. You must take responsibility, repent for your part, and ask God to help you move on.

Even if someone else is at fault - forgive them for what they did - and move on. Cut down the trunk of Blame once and for all.

Judging and Criticizing

The Root of Accusation loves to judge and criticize. If we allow the Root of Accusation to remain, eventually it will branch out into suspicion, judgment and criticism.

• The Root of Accusation will criticize and judge you - you may hear others say to you, or hear thoughts in your head:

You will never amount to anything. You're such a loser. No matter what you do, you always fail. You're fat, stupid, lazy, etc. You are always late. You will never get married, no one could love you.

Accusation often speaks to us in the first person, as if it was us speaking to us. This can be very deceiving because we confuse our own thoughts with Accusation:

I will never amount to anything. I am such a loser. There is no hope for me. No matter what I do, I always fail. I may as well give up. I am fat. I am stupid. I am so lazy. I am always late. I can never be on time. I will never get married because no one could love me.

By disguising itself as our own thoughts towards us, it is easier for accusation to get us to believe the lies. We are duped into accepting the lies from the enemy and speaking them over ourselves.

• The Root of Accusation will criticize and judge others - it will try to use you to accuse others - to speak words of accusation at others.

Why did I ever marry you? My mother was right about you. You'll end up digging ditches. Did you see that face, only a mother could love him. He is such a pain. How obnoxious. Could she be more of loser?

Watch what you say to others, we will all be judged for every idle word that proceeds from our mouths. Matthew 12:36.

Judge not, lest ye be judged. Matthew 7:1

• The Root of Accusation will even accuse God - it will get you to blame God for the things that happened to you:

If God loved you, He would not have let that happen to you. Why doesn't God want me to have a baby, He must think I would be a bad mother. God must have given you that cancer to test you. Why won't God send me a husband? God hates me. God never answers my prayers. Why bother. Why didn't God protect me?

Satan loves to accuse God for the things of his kingdom - sickness, misery, pain. If the devil is successful at getting us to blame God, we will not trust God to help us out of our problems. We will turn inward and become isolated and alone.

Shame and Guilt

Shame, guilt, unworthiness, self-pity, torment - these are all branches that eventually sprout when the Root of Accusation is left intact.

The Accusing Spirit uses words of accusation to make us feel unworthy, shameful and guilty. It will make you fearful that nothing will ever change; that this is the best there is for you; that you deserve your lot in life. Accusation will paralyze us with self-pity - if we allow it to. It will bring torment and distrust.

When we accept the lies coming at us from the enemy, we take it into our spirit. Then we can actually become the lie. Our bodies can conform to our thoughts and what others say to us and we can become sick, lonely and depressed.

Condemning

Accusation is a Condemning Spirit. It is the opposite of the Holy Spirit, who convicts us of our sin. The Accusing Spirit will condemn us for what we did or did not do. No amount of repenting will stop it - we continue to be reminded of the things we did - and end up feeling that we have to keep confessing and keep repenting. God hears our prayer of confession and repentance the first time. He forgives and forgets. Satan never forgets and is always happy to remind us of our failures. This teams up with self-pity and torment and keeps us stuck in the past. When Satan can keep us stuck in the past, he keeps us from coming into our destiny in Jesus Christ.

Rebellion

Some people who come under attack from the Root of Accusation take on a personality of Rebellion. Instead of drawing back, they lash out with acts of defiance and rebellion. It is an "I will show them" kind of attitude.

Removing the Root of Accusation

• Start by chopping down the trunk of Blame. Satan wants us to repay evil for evil. But God says:

But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you. Matthew 5:44

• Repent for Blame in your past and resolve to not blame and fault others from this day forward.

Forgive those who hurt you - those who had a part in heaping problems on you. Give the situation over to God. Allow Him to heal it. Move on and do not dwell on the past and how others failed you.

• Destroy the Root of Accusation:

Refuse to accept the lies from Accusation – fall out of agreement with accusation:

- \cdot through what others say about you.
- \cdot through your own thoughts.

Rebuke all statements and thoughts from Accusation.

Replace these negative statements with what the Word of God says about you.

I am predestined, called, justified and glorified by the Father. Romans 8:30

I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Psalm 139:14

(There are many scriptures in the Bible that tell us how God feels about us. Begin to look for them and make a list of your favorites. Use them against the devil.)

Bring every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ. 2 Corinthians 10:5.

• In addition to our thoughts, we must take every word into captivity that proceeds from our mouths. Do not allow yourself to be used by Accusation to accuse and tear down others. Do not be part of allowing a Root of Accusation to spring up in yourself or others.

Ministry for The Root of Accusation

In order to complete deliverance from Accusation and all of its branches (underlings), you should now pray the following prayer of repentance and renunciation:

Say this prayer out loud:

Father God, I repent for and renounce the Root of Accusation and all its underlings in my

life and coming through my generations. In the name of Jesus, Christ I now break covenant with the Root of Accusation and all its underlings. I ask for forgiveness and that all curses be broken in the name of Jesus Christ.

For each of the following spirits, speak the following prayer out loud:

In the name of Jesus Christ, I take authority over the spirit of ______ and I break your power over my life. In the name of Jesus Christ I cast out the spirit of ______ and order it to leave me now.

Root: Accusation

Underlings:

| Blame | Loneliness and Isolation | Doubt and Unbelief |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Fault | Unworthy | Destroyer |
| Rebellion | Shame | Disrespect |
| Control and Manipulation | Strife and Division | Confusion |
| Comparison | Self-Pity | Rudeness |
| Competition | Fear | Cruelty |
| Replay/Memory Recall | Deception | Pride |
| Suspicion and Distrust | Lying | Dhaniaga aninit |
| | 8 | Pharisee spirit |
| Slander and Gossip | Paranoia | Religious spirit |
| Slander and Gossip Judging and Criticism | | - |
| - | Paranoia | Religious spirit |

I now break all generational curses coming through accusation and all programming for accusation, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Now pray the following prayer out loud:

Father God, thank you for my healing and deliverance from the Root of Accusation. Help me to stay free from this spirit and all of its underlings. And now Father God, I pray for a fresh filling of the Holy Spirit to fill me and take the place of all the spirits that have been cast out. Fill me completely with the Holy Spirit, in Jesus' name I pray.

Chapter 3

The Root of Rejection

Ephesians 1:3-6 sets forth the Father's heart towards us:

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has *blessed us* with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ. Just as *He chose us* in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having predestined us to *adoption* as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which *He made us accepted* in the Beloved. Ephesians 1:3-6

So these verses tell us that:

| God blesses us. | He adopted us. |
|-----------------|----------------|
| He chose us. | He accepts us. |

God says we are accepted. Satan tells us the opposite. That we are rejected, unworthy, unloved. Satan desires to steal our peace in the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and he does this greatly through the Spirit of Rejection.

The Spirit of Rejection will use others to inflict rejection on you - if you let them. Rejection is everywhere, so we must learn not to fall prey to it. Jesus was also rejected many times.

Jesus told his disciples that he would suffer rejection:

And He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and after 3 days rise again. Mark 8:31

He (Jesus) looked at them and said, "The stone which the builders have rejected Has become the chief cornerstone. Luke 20:17

Rejection is rampant in the world. It comes in from many sources or entry points. Some of these could be:

| adoption |
|------------------------------------|
| divorce |
| abuse of any kind |
| harsh teasing of a child |
| abandonment by one or both parents |
| slavery and segregation |

death of a loved one getting fired or reprimanded hurts in church Before birth: unwanted pregnancy wrong gender (wanted boy-got girl, visa versa) Rejection can be inflicted by:

Words - words are powerful. They can hurt. The Bible warns of the power of the tongue: Death and life are in the power of the tongue. Proverbs 18:21

| Action - we show people v | we reject them by: |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| dirty looks | impatience |
| silent treatment | neglect |
| abandonment | abuse |

Rejection can inflict a wound on your spirit. It hurts tremendously.

The Personality of Rejection

Taking Offense

The spirit of Offense is the trunk to the Root of Rejection. This spirit is very sensitive. It picks apart words and intentions. It will have you feel offended by comments made to you, by the way people treat you, by anything and everything.

Offense will often lead to Rejection. When we allow ourselves to be offended by others, we leave ourselves open to the Root of Rejection. Then spirits of Bitterness and Unforgiveness can follow.

Spirits of Offense target those who already have Rejection. This is because when we have Rejection, we are more likely to become offended - sometimes we are offended when nothing was meant by it. We are conditioned to perceive offense everywhere.

We must develop a thicker skin and less sensitivity to what others say or do. This is not to say that what people say to us or do to us does not hurt. Many times it does. But we must learn not to take offense. We must forgive others immediately and turn them over to God. Let God deal with them. And do not become offended with others. When we cut down the trunk of Offense, the other branches and fruit of the tree of Rejection can come with it.

Guilt and Shame

Guilt is so destructive because no amount of repenting lessons it. Guilt puts the blame on us for rejection by others - somehow it was our fault. Children who are molested often feel guilty even as adults. Guilt keeps you from forgiving yourself. You feel like you deserved whatever bad thing happened.

Shame keeps things secret. Whatever happened is so bad that no one can ever know about it. It must be buried deep inside of us, never to be discussed. This secretive spirit of Shame keeps you locked in torment because you never are able to discuss or confess what happened - to allow healing to come. Shame and Guilt are branches that spring from the Root of Rejection and they bind you to the past like glue and keep you from healing and from moving on with your life.

Self-Pity

Self-Pity is a backward looking spirit. It always remembers the past - what happened to you. It reminds you of what that person did to you, how horrible it was, etc. Then Self-Pity tries to project this into the future. It gives you a "poor me" attitude. You indulge in thoughts of how unfair life is to you. This gets you focused on failure. Your confession becomes negative: Bad things always happen to me. I always get the short end of the stick. Things never work out for me.

Feels Rejection Everywhere

Even where not intended. Rejection can include a scrambler that mixes up messages and intentions. You perceive it differently from what the speaker meant. Rejection is highly sensitive and cannot take criticism, even constructive criticism. It implies bad intentions to all criticism. This makes it hard to hold down a job. Makes you take offense and become argumentative at your bosses and coworkers. It even makes you reject yourself - which can lead to auto-immune diseases.

Depression and Heaviness

These spirits have an assignment to convince you that there is no way out of your situation. That it is hopeless. You can fall into a circle of despair. It may lead to thoughts of suicide. Or you might just think, I wish God would take me home now. At times, this can lead to spirits of Suicide and Death and the person actually will take their own life.

Excessive Need for Love and Attention:

No amount of love or attention is enough. It is almost like an addiction. No matter how much love and attention we receive, we still feel rejected and unworthy and we seek more. Some people will do anything to gain the approval and attention of others. They never want others upset with them. They do not want to get rejected again, and so bend over backwards to please others and get their approval.

Insecurity and Inferiority:

These spirits bring in an inferiority complex. This person tends to put himself down. He compares himself to others and concludes, I am inferior. Sometimes it manifests inwardly - overly shy, timid and fearful. Other times it manifests the opposite - prideful and haughty. This outward manifestation of pride is really a mask for feeling inferior and rejected.

Rebellion

When we are not loved or do not feel loved, sometimes we rebel against those people who should have loved us. Once this door to rebellion is opened, it can lead to rebellion of all authority. This can lead to self-will, independence, stubbornness, unteachableness, defiance, selfishness and pride.

Fear:

Not feeling loved and accepted can bring on many forms of fear, such as:

| Fear of Man | Fear of Failure |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Fear of Rejection | Fear of Abandonment |

We can doom our success by falling into fear - we talk ourselves out of success by fear. Fear can lead to a wearing down of the immune system, bringing on ailments such as allergies, asthma and other infirmities.

Performance, Perfectionism, Drivenness

We try to prove our acceptance through excellent performance and through perfectionism. We never want to be second best. We must always be the best.

| Grades | Ministry |
|-----------|-------------------|
| Athletics | Our family |
| Looks | Employment/Career |

But we never feel good enough. Rejection will keep pressing to make you try harder and harder, to do better and better. This can lead to chronic fatigue.

Self-Rejection:

Self-Rejection is a very strong and destructive branch growing from the tree of Rejection. It often teams with Self-Accusation and Self-Hatred. You have listened to the lies of Accusation and have believed them. You feel that you are not worthy. You actually begin to feel like the lie from Rejection. You may even become the lie. This can lead to auto-immune diseases as our bodies conform to our thoughts.

Sometimes one seeks to change his personality - become like someone we admire. This is an attempt to try to be acceptable and look good to others. This can open the door to schizophrenia. We fabricate a personality that looks good on the outside, but on the inside we are crying and hopeless.

Rejection of Others

This is a spirit of hardness. These people have built walls around themselves so as to prevent further rejection and pain. They will not allow themselves to love again, be vulnerable. But if we isolate ourselves from others, we will be of limited use to the Kingdom of God.

Removing the Root of Rejection

• Forgive those who hurt you - those who rejected you in the past:

Recognize the roots that were working in these people. Resolve not to carry their rejection as your rejection any longer. Break free from these people and the past through unconditional forgiveness You may hate the sin - but you love the person.

• Repent for accepting Rejection in the past:

Recognize and Understand that you have allowed Rejection into your life. Repent of it and then Remove it.

• Resolve to stand firm in your acceptance by God:

Rebuke Rejection when it comes at you. Refuse thoughts of Rejection Refuse Rejection by others - in words or action

- Replace all words and thoughts of rejection with the Word of God.
- Accept the Love of God without reservation:

God loves you - He always has and He always will. Look to God for your acceptance - not man. Man may let you down - God will not.

•Never take offense when people reject you.

Resolve to have a thick skin and let things slide off you. Forgive immediately and move on.

Ministry for The Root of Rejection

In order to complete deliverance from the Root of Rejection and all of its branches (underlings), you should now pray the following prayer of repentance and renunciation:

Say this prayer out loud:

Father God, I repent for and renounce the Root of Rejection and all its underlings in my life and coming through my generations. In the name of Jesus Christ, I now break covenant with the Root of Rejection and all its underlings. I ask for forgiveness and that all curses be broken in the name of Jesus Christ.

For each of the following spirits, speak the following prayer out loud:

In the name of Jesus Christ, I take authority over the spirit of ______ and I break your power over my life. In the name of Jesus Christ I cast out the spirit of ______ and order it to leave me now.

Root: Rejection

<u>Underlings</u>:

| Offense | Abandonment | False Responsibility, False Burden Bearing, False |
|--|---|--|
| a | Rejection of Others | Compassion |
| Sensitivity | Rebellion, Control | Inordinate Affection |
| Excessive Need for Love | Manipulation, Matriarchal | For Animals |
| Approval, Attention, | Control | |
| Acceptance | | Lust, Fantasy Lust |
| C-16 D'Harmon | Addictions, Compulsions | Header has Durchase Head |
| Self-Bitterness, Self-Unforgiveness, | Low Self-Esteem, Shyness | Heartache, Broken Heart Deep Hurt & Wounding |
| Self-Indignation, | Insecurity, Timidity, | of the Spirit, Sadness, Grief |
| Self-Revenge, Self-Hatred, | Isolation, Inferiority | Sorrow, Loneliness |
| Self- Anger, Self-Rage | , j | , |
| Self-Murder | Depression, Oppression, | Slavery, Bondage, Vagabond |
| | Heaviness, Hopelessness, | Subordination, Racism, |
| Self-Accusation, | Suicide, Death, Insomnia | Witchcraft |
| Self-Condemnations Self-Rejection | Defeatism, Discouragement | Confusion, Forgetfulness |
| Sen-Rejection | Guilt, Condemnation | Scrambling, Torment |
| Doubt & Unbelief | Shame, Embarrassment | Seramoning, Tormoni |
| Double minded | Unworthiness, Defensive | Spirit of Infirmity |
| Paranoia | | |
| | Performance, Striving | Spirits of Death and |
| Fear: Fear of Man, | Perfectionism, Comparison | Destruction |
| Fear of Failure, Fear of Rejection Fear of Abandonment, Fear of | Selfish, Envy, Jealousy Muttering, Complaining | Break Generational Curses |
| Deliverance, Fear of Not Being | Unthankful, Self-Pity | break Generational Curses |
| Delivered, Fear of Losing | | Cancel Programming |
| Deliverance | Pride, Vanity, Arrogance | |
| | | |

Now pray the following prayer out loud:

Father God, thank you for my healing and deliverance from the Root of Rejection. Help me to stay free from this spirit and all of its underlings. And now Father God, I pray for a fresh filling of the Holy Spirit to fill me and take the place of all the spirits that have been cast out. Fill me completely with the Holy Spirit, in Jesus' name I pray.

Chapter 4

The Root of Self-Destruction

Then God said, let Us make man in Our own image, according to Our likeness . . . So God created man in His own image. Genesis 1:26-27

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. He who does not love does not know God, because God is love. 1 John 4:7-8

From these verses, God tells us that we are made in His image, in His likeness - - and that He is love. Therefore, we are to love:

 \cdot God \cdot Ourselves \cdot Others

God is love and He loves us with an everlasting love. Jeremiah 31:3. Since God loves us, if we do not love ourselves, we are acting contrary to what God says about us.

Satan and His kingdom tell us the opposite of what God says about us:

worthy - unworthy loved - unloved accepted - unaccepted winner - loser beautiful - ugly redeemed - condemned

The question is - whose voice are you going to listen to? You cannot serve two masters, you must choose. Matthew 6:24

This Root of Self-Destruction wants you to take your eyes off God and put them on yourself. It wants you to focus on yourself, your past, your pains and hurts, your infirmities, your enemies. It wants you to hate yourself. Self-destruction wants to take God's place in your life and rule and reign over you.

The Personality of the Root of Self-Destruction

Self-Loathing

This is the trunk to the Root of Self-destruction. If you can learn to love yourself, as God loves you, and accept God's love of you, then the rest of the branches and fruit of this evil tree must fall.

Self-destruction will work to make you hate yourself. It keeps you from forgiving yourself. It makes you reject yourself and keeps you from receiving God's love. People who have embraced

this spirit, deep down do not feel worthy of love. This produces the deepest pain possible - when we reject ourselves and reject love.

This can result in autoimmune diseases, as our bodies conform to our thoughts. It can lead to suicidal thoughts and actions.

It can make you accuse yourself - become very critical of yourself. You tend to contradict the good things people say about you.

This spirit wants you to think about your past failures and hurts all the time. Thinking about it sometimes even makes you feel physically sick. You cannot counsel these feelings away - they are not just feelings or emotions, they are evil spirits.

Focused on the Past

The Root of Self-destruction will have you focused on the past. It keeps you in unforgiveness towards yourself and others by replaying past failures and disappointments. This keeps you feeling that you are just no good, that there is no hope for a happy future. You are always looking backward, feeling unworthy and unloved. But God tells us through the Apostle Paul not to focus on the past:

Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press towards the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. Philippians 3:12-14.

Self-pity works here to make you feel dejected and hopeless. Self-Pity is a branch that often springs from this evil root. It projects past failures and fear into future situations. It can keep you from taking action, because you just know it won't turn out good, it never does.

Abusive

This is a very abusive spirit. It is abusive towards you and towards others. It wants to hurt you. It wants to hurt others through you.

Self-Abuse and Self-Mutilation: Cutting Tattoos and Body Piercing Anorexia and Bulimia Binge Drinking

Excessive Exercise Extreme Athletics Dangerous Relationships Overeating

Abuse of Others:

Verbal, physical, sexual abuse Many times those who were abused become abusers themselves. This because a door was opened for this abusive spirit to become part of our life when we were abused. It then manifests itself through us to abuse others. This creates a cycle of violence and abuse in families.

Self-Sabotage

That very thing which you most desire, you destroy: Relationships College Job/Career Ministry Family

You look back and cannot believe you acted they way you did - how could I have done something so foolish? It was as if you were programmed to fail.

Focused on Self

This branch is an Idolatrous spirit - Self Idolatry. You become almost totally focused on you, your needs, your life. When you are in a conversation, you dominate the discussion with talk about yourself - what you are doing, what you think about something, how you feel, etc. This spirit makes it hard for you to focus on the needs of others.

Attention-Getting:

Self-Idolatry causes a person to want excessive attention. They put on a show for others. They want to be in the spot-light This might manifest itself in desiring positions in church that put you front and center - dance team, soloist, etc. This attention-getting is really just a mask for insecurity and a feeling of unworthiness.

Excessive Talking:

Similar to attention-getting, this is a spiritual issue that masks insecurity. It manifests in a person dominating every conversation, talking during inappropriate times and wanting to be the center of attention. The person is trying to hide that inner pain of feeling unloved.

Need for Approval:

The person who has embraced the root of Self-Destruction is looking for approval from others. This is a means to prove that he is acceptable, loved, worthy. You would do anything to gain the approval and admiration of others. Some people end up in gangs, bad marriages, and other problematic relationships, trying to find approval. But approval from others never satisfies and you still feel the pain of self-rejection. We can never be fulfilled with the approval of man, we must seek the approval of God.

This need for approval may also manifest in competition and perfectionism. You are not happy unless you win, unless you are the best. Again, it is trying to compensate for deep down not feeling good about yourself.

Selfish and Self-Centered

It produces a kingdom of "I": Me, Myself and I. It can lead to rebellion as the person feels he can do what he wants, when he wants, with who he wants - and you will not tell him otherwise. This can lead to self-exaltation and pride.

Doubt and Unbelief

All the self-exaltation and focus on self is really masking deep-rooted doubt and fear about our worth. There is no real confidence. Insecurity and inferiority are common feelings. Deep down, we just know we are a failure and it is never going to get any better. Things work out for the best for others, but not for us. This goes against what God says:

And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. Romans 8:28

Double-Minded

The Root of Self-destruction has us drifting between self-exaltation and pride and self-doubt. We are double-minded. We do not stand firm on the Word of God and what it says about us. This can produce confusion, torment and fatigue.

We need to be loved, but cannot receive love. We need attention, but really do not feel we deserve it. We try to win but feel like a loser. We look perfect on the outside to others, but inside we feel a mess.

Sadness

Perhaps most of all, this Root produces sadness. Those who have embraced the Root of Selfdestruction feel deep sorrow and grief. Their heart really aches. Despite all the trying to put on a "good show" to others, when you get home, you want to lie down and cry. It produces a feeling of hopelessness and loneliness. You may feel no one really loves you, and no one ever will. It produces a deep, deep pain in the spirit of the person.

Addictions

An addiction is anything that you cannot give up by an act of your own will. No matter how hard you try, you seem to always go back to that addiction. You are not in control. Addictions are primarily a function of lack of love. Because we are made in the image of God, Who is love, we have a deep need for love. So, when we are not loved, or cannot receive love, we are imbalanced in a profound way.

Our bodies have glands that produce hormones that regulate mood, sleep, sexuality, appetite, etc. When we are off-balance due to a lack of love, our bodies can respond by actually producing less of these hormones. The result is we feel worse and worse about ourselves.

Satan comes in with substitutes for God's love - and tries to convince us to feel good by:

| Pornography | Food | Career |
|-------------|------------------|----------|
| Drugs | Exercise | Caffeine |
| Alcohol | Gambling | Sugar |
| Shopping | Sexual conquests | |

Many times spirits of addiction are generational. Look to your family tree:

Alcoholism can be an inherited iniquity - a generational curse Addictive personality - a tendency to be addictive Drug addiction can be a generational curse

The key to removing addictions is to receive the love of God and remove the spirit of addiction. We also must make up our minds that we will not stay with this addiction. It must be given over to God.

Removing the Root of Self-Destruction

- In order to remove the root of self-destruction, you must surrender to God completely:
 - Give Him your whole heart. Fall out of agreement with the Spirit of Self-Destruction. Accept God's love - without reservation. Accept who you are in Jesus Christ.
- You must forgive those who hurt you: Recognize the spiritual roots that were involved. Do not fall into similar patterns. Separate the sin from the person - hate the sin, love the person.

• Break Generational Curses: You do not have to be the way your parents and grandparents were if you do not want to.

• Forgive Yourself: Forgive yourself of everything you ever did and did not do in the past. Reach forward to the upward call in Christ. Love yourself, Accept yourself, Accept God's Love.

Ministry for The Root of Self-Destruction

In order to complete deliverance from Self-Destruction and all of its branches (underlings), you should now pray the following prayer of repentance and renunciation:

Say this prayer out loud:

Father God, I repent for and renounce the Root of Self-Destruction and all its underlings in my life and coming through my generations. In the name of Jesus Christ I now break covenant with the Root of Self-Destruction and all its underlings. I ask for forgiveness and that all curses be broken in the name of Jesus Christ.

For each of the following spirits, speak the following prayer out loud:

In the name of Jesus Christ, I take authority over the spirit of ______ and I break your power over my life. In the name of Jesus Christ I cast out the spirit of ______ and order it to leave me now.

Root: Self-Destruction

Underlings:

| Self-Loathing - Self-Bitterness Self-Unforgiveness | Vanity Arrogance | Control Manipulation |
|---|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Self-Indignation/Resentment Self-Revenge | Pride Religious Spirit | Schizophrenia |
| Self-Anger | | Double-minded |
| Self-Hatred | Cruelty | |
| Self-Violence/Rage | Bondage | Performance |
| Self-Murder | Abuse | Perfectionism |
| | Self-Abuse | Need for Approval |
| Self-Rejection | | Need for Attention |
| Self-Abuse | Perversion | Excessive Talking |
| Self-Sabotage | Fornication | |
| Self-Mutilation | Prostitution | Spirit of Addiction |
| Self-Accusation | Gluttony | Addictive Personality |
| | | Alcohol Addiction |
| Self-Doubt and Unbelief | Misery | Drug Addiction |
| Self-Comparison | Sorrow | Sexual Addictions |
| Self-Pity | Grief | Food Addictions |
| Self-Deception | Sadness | Nicotine Addictions |
| - | Hopelessness | Other Addictions (list them) |
| Selfishness | Despair | |
| Self-Righteousness | | Spirit of Infirmity |
| Self-Exaltation | Rebellion | Spirits of Death & Destruction |
| Self-Centered | Fear | Break Generational Curses |
| | | Cancel Programming |

Now pray the following prayer out loud:

Father God, thank you for my healing and deliverance from the Root of Self-Destruction. Help me to stay free from this spirit and all of its underlings. And now Father God, I pray for a fresh filling of the Holy Spirit to fill me and take the place of all the spirits that have been cast out. Fill me completely with the Holy Spirit, in Jesus' name I pray.

Chapter 5

The Root of Covetousness

You shall not covet your neighbor's house, you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor anything that is your neighbor's. Exodus 20:17

<u>Covetousness</u>: means to strongly desire to possess something or someone that belongs to someone else. *Nelson's illustrated Dictionary of the Bible*. There are many examples of covetousness in the Bible:

2 Samuel Chapter 11 tells us the story of King David and Bathsheba. King David watched her from his roof and finding her to be beautiful, he desired/coveted her. David was told she was the wife of another man, but no matter, David took her anyway. He allowed the sin of covetousness to overtake him. Unfortunately, allowing this sin into his life eventually opened the door for a spirit of Murder and David had Uriah, Bathsheba's husband killed.

In 2 Kings 5:20-27 we hear about the servant of Elisha who lied in an effort to receive the offering from Naaman that Elisha refused. Lying and Deceiving Spirits often link with spirits of Covetousness and Envy as the person seeks to get what he desires.

<u>Envy</u>: means a feeling of resentment and jealousy toward another person because of his possessions or good qualities. *Nelson's illustrated Dictionary of the Bible*. The Apostle James linked envy with self-seeking and selfish ambition. James 3:14-16

In Genesis Chapter 37, the Bible discusses the story of Joseph and his brothers. The brother's envied Joseph because he was their Father's favorite. This envy eventually allowed in a spirit of Bitterness and Murder and Joseph was sold into slavery.

<u>Jealousy</u>: is a desire to control or possess something or someone to the exclusion of others. It is a spirit of Selfishness to keep things from others. It also is a spirit of Fear that if you do not hold fast to this thing or person you might lose it.

The Personality of the Root of Covetousness

Idolatry:

The spirit of Idolatry is the trunk to the Root of Covetousness. Idolatry is worshiping or desiring things or people more than God. We take our eyes off of God and put them on people or possessions. We essentially do not trust God to provide what we need. If we continue to worship something other than God, God will turn us over to this thing and we will have to depend on it instead of God.

So the Lord said to the children of Israel, Did I not deliver you from the Egyptians and from the Amorites and from the people of Ammon and from the Philistines? Yet you have forsaken Me and served other gods. Therefore, I will deliver you no more. Go and cry out to the gods which you have chosen; let them deliver you in your time of distress. Judges 10:11, 13-14.

Idolatry does not only mean bowing down to a golden calf or carved image. It is putting something above God such as work, children, ministry, money, football, our house, etc. Anything that takes top billing over God is an idol that must be cast down. In order to defeat Covetousness, we must cut down the trunk of idolatry and put God in the number one position in our lives. Until we do this, we leave ourselves open to the Spirit of Covetousness.

Arrogant

This is a greedy and self-centered spirit. It will spring up from the Root of Covetousness unless the root is destroyed. Arrogance says that what you want is more important than anything else. In other words, you and your desires are more important that anything or anyone. It can produce rivalry and pride. It can cause you to hurt or disregard others as you seek to get what you want.

Envious and Jealous

Spirits of Envy and Jealousy will grow from the Root of Covetousness and make you feel discontented. You want more and more. And it is never enough. When you get what you thought you wanted, it is not enough. It does not satisfy. Now the line is moved and you want something else. It never ends and it can lead to exhaustion and fatigue.

Jealousy and Envy can make you sabotage others. They can open the door to many other Spirits that seek to hurt and destroy others, such as Bitterness, Rage and Violence.

In Matthew 27, Pilate asked the crowd gathered whether they would have him release Jesus or Barabbas. For Pilate knew that the Chief Priests and Pharisees had handed Jesus over to him *because of envy*.

Acts 13:45-52 tells of the ministry of Paul and Barnabas in Antioch. Multitudes came to hear Paul and Barnabas preach and the when the Jews saw the multitudes: they were filled with *envy and contradicting and blaspheming* and they opposed the things spoken by Paul.

Comparison

This spirit loves to have us compare ourselves to others. It wants you to look at what you have vs. what others have. It will say, "that is not fair, look at all she has, she does not deserve it."

Comparison works in the Church to have people compare their spiritual gifting to other's gifting. It will say, "He just got saved and I prayed for that gift for 20 years. It's not right." It will have people comparing their ministry to other ministries. It produces strife and division and

resentment. It may also lead to gossip and back-biting and the tearing down of our fellow Christians.

Comparison never turns out good. When we compare ourselves to others, we end up feeling either inferior or superior. Either way, God is not pleased. We are to do the assignment He has given us and not worry about what someone else is doing.

Removing the Root of Covetousness

• In order to be free of Covetousness, you must first cut down the trunk of Idolatry. God must be first and foremost in our lives. Then as the old Hymn goes:

Turn your eyes upon Jesus Look full in His wonderful face And the things of this world will grow strangely dim In the light of His glory and grace.

As we turn our eyes away from this world and worldly possessions and onto God, the things of the world will seem less and less important and we will focus less and less on them.

• Repent for doubt and unbelief that God will provide us with all we need. God says He will give you the desires of your heart. Ps. 37:4

Therefore do not worry about your life, about what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing . . . For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows you that you need all these things . . . But Seek first the Kingdom of God, and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. Matthew 6:25, 32-33.

• Remove the Root of Covetousness. Resolve to trust God completely from this day forward.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding. In all of your ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct your path. Proverbs 3:5

Be content with what you have and rejoice for what God has given you. Let your conduct be without covetousness, be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." Hebrews 13:5

• Finally, rejoice for others when they are blessed. God's Kingdom is without limit. Another's blessing can in no way diminish ours!

Ministry for The Root of Covetousness

In order to complete deliverance from Covetousness and all of its branches (underlings), you should now pray the following prayer of repentance and renunciation:

Say this prayer out loud:

Father God, I repent for and renounce the Root of Covetousness and all its underlings in my life and coming through my generations. In the name of Jesus Christ I now break covenant with the Root of Covetousness and all its underlings. I ask for forgiveness and that all curses be broken in the name of Jesus Christ.

For each of the following spirits, speak the following prayer out loud:

In the name of Jesus Christ, I take authority over the spirit of ______ and I break your power over my life. In the name of Jesus Christ I cast out the spirit of ______ and order it to leave me now.

Root: Covetousness

Underlings:

| Idolatry | Gossip & Slander | Division & Strife |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|---|
| Comparison & Competition | Self-Pity | Rivalry |
| Lust | Murmuring, Complaining | Possessiveness |
| Greed | Rebellion | Control, Witchcraft |
| Insecurity & Inferiority | Competition | Fear |
| Discontent | Doubt, Unbelief | Arrogance |
| Avarice | Double-minded | Destroyer |
| Envy | Lying, Deception | Spirit of Infirmity |
| Jealousy | Stealing | Spirits of Death and Destruction |
| Selfishness, Self-Centeredness | Pride, Vanity | |
| Critical Spirit | Superiority | Break Generational Curses Cancel Programming |

Now pray the following prayer out loud:

Father God, thank you for my healing and deliverance from the Root of Covetousness. Help me to stay free from this spirit and all of its underlings. And now Father God, I pray for a fresh filling of the Holy Spirit to fill me and take the place of all the spirits that have been cast out. Fill me completely with the Holy Spirit, in Jesus' name I pray.

Chapter 6

The Root of Fear

In Luke 4:18, Jesus declared that He came to set the captives free:

The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor, He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, *To proclaim liberty to the captives*, And recovery of sight to the blind, *To set at liberty those who are oppressed*.

Fear is a prison that locks us into a life of worry, anxiety and dread. It oppresses us with thoughts of what might happen. Fear does not come from God.

For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, and of love and of a sound mind. 2 Timothy 1:7

Jesus came to free us from our prisons of fear. He is the key that unlocks the prison door. What is required of us is to put our trust in God.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths. Proverbs 3:5-6

If we trust the Lord with all our hearts and if we let Him lead us in everything we do, we can become free of fear. The trouble comes when we do not put our faith in God - when we lean on ourselves, on the world, on others. The only perfect One is God. He is the One who will never leave you nor forsake you. Hebrews 13:5

Fear is the Opposite of Faith

Satan's kingdom is built on fear. God's Kingdom is built on faith. But, fear and faith have something in common. They both project into the future:

Fear projects worry and dread of bad things that might happen. And as with Job, sometimes it actually projects our fears into reality.

For the thing I greatly feared has come upon me, And what I dreaded has happened to me. Job 3:25

Faith projects that which we hope for, that which we pray for.

Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. Hebrews 11:1

For assuredly I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, be removed and be cast into the sea, and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. Therefore, I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them. Mark 11:23-24

Fear is speculation. It is controlling. It crowds out faith and keeps faith from working in your life. When we are full of fear, no matter what the Bible tells us about our situation, our mind will tell us just the opposite. And we cannot seem to help but listen to our mind. Then our body responds:

We have a natural fight or flight reaction. It is there to help us get out of dangerous situations. It is a God-given ability to move - fast! Our bodies will send large amounts of adrenaline, cortisone and other hormones into our bloodstream in order to get us out of danger.

However, we are not designed to stay in fear and stress. When fear becomes part of our daily life, we have these hormones in our system in elevated levels all of the time. This takes a toll on our body. It can damage our immune system and make it harder for us to fight off disease. It can cause us to have allergies, asthma, high blood pressure, and other diseases. It can cause chronic fatigue and exhaustion.

Fear does not just affect our mind and spirit, it can also greatly affect our health.

The Personality of Fear

Lack of Trust in God

This is the trunk to the Root of Fear. When we do not trust God fully, then fear can creep into our lives. When we have faith in God and trust Him with every aspect of our lives, our family, finances, job, ministry, health, etc, then fear will have no control over us. Faith will crowd out fear. In order to remove the Root of Fear and all of its evil branches, you must learn to trust God.

First, make a decision - once and for all - to trust God. Say it out loud. Then allow God to heal you of fear. It will most likely be a process that takes time. Give God time to minister you. If you have many fears, this may be one fear at a time.

Worry

Worry is fear about an event that has no conceivable solution. For instance, some people have a lot of worry about hurricanes. They agonize over whether a storm will hit where they live. They worry about their new boss and what he/she is going to be like. They worry about the stock market and if their investments will decrease in value. They worry about the price of gas.

These are problems that cannot be solved by thinking about them - worrying about them, agonizing about them.

Therefore, do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble. Matthew 6:34

The solution is to trust that God will care for you no matter what happens.

Anxiety

Anxiety is apprehension or uneasiness over an anticipated event. It is doubt about the outcome and our ability to cope with it. Again, it is speculation about what might happen. Many people have anxiety over issues at work. They have anxiety over their family members. They have anxiety over financial issues.

The solution to anxiety is to give your life to God and live according to His purpose. Then we need not be anxious about our life.

And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. Romans 8:28

Dread

Dread is belief that the worst will happen. It is mulling over a situation and coming up with the worst case scenario, and then feeling that surely this will be the outcome. It is negative faith. It is a negative confession.

Distress

Is a state of anguish, misery and pain. We feel desperate about our situation. There seems to be no way out for us. Distress may cause us to cry, to get stomach pain, digestive problems, etc.

Panic

This is real terror and torment. It is a paralyzing fear. It can keep us from functioning. Sometimes it keeps us from leaving the house or even our room. It can cause our heart to race and our blood pressure to rise. It is a very real feeling of fright or terror. Anyone who has experienced a panic attack can attest that it is real and takes control over you.

Timidity

Timidity is an inability to make a decision. We dwell and dwell on the possible consequences of the decision. What might happen if I decide this way. What might happen if I decide that way. We become immobilized, unable to act either way. We procrastinate. Anything to avoid the decision.

We must learn to lean on God in everything. Read the Bible daily and meditate on God's ways. Pray and get God's counsel on your situation. Talk with Spirit-filled friends and have them pray with you about the decision. Then, make a decision and have faith in God.

Open Doors For the Spirit of Fear

There are a number of ways that a Spirit of Fear may gain access to our lives. These are what we call "open doors" for fear.

<u>Generational</u>: Many of us have "inherited" Fear through our generations. Our parents were fearful, their parents were fearful, etc. Now, through the passing of the spirits through the generations and through learned behavior, we are fearful. This is a common way many become oppressed by fear.

<u>Great Turmoil in the home</u>: Children often come under oppression by a spirit of fear when the home in which they were raised was full of turmoil and uncertainty. For instance, a home where the father often comes home in a rage or intoxicated. A home where the mother and father fight much of the time. There is violence in the home. Children brought up around fearful situations many times end up as very fearful adults.

<u>Traumas</u>: Traumatic situations sometimes result in a spirit of fear. Some examples are:

| | | 1 1 |
|------------------------|-------------|---|
| Service in combat zo | ones | Very difficult labor and delivery |
| (post traumatic stress | s syndrome) | Hospitalizations |
| Being mugged or rol | bbed | Serious illnesses |
| Near drowning | | Car Accidents |
| Watching horror mo | vies | Going through "haunted" houses |
| Trauma with abuse | | Being locked in a closet or small dark places |

<u>Involvement in the Occult</u>: Involvement in the occult often brings with it a spirit of fear. Secret Societies such as Freemasonry and Eastern Star also can bring a spirit of fear.

Removing the Root of Fear

You cannot talk yourself out of fear. You cannot counsel fear away. It is not just an emotion, it is a spirit.

• Decide that God is in charge of every aspect of your life. Tell Him so. Give yourself totally to Him.

• Accept God's love.

Perfect love casts out fear. 1 John 4:18

God loves you unconditionally. He loves you with an everlasting love. So, you can trust Him with your life, your family and all of your possessions.

• Repent for embracing the spirit of Fear. Fear is a sin because it goes against faith.

• Ask God to help you defeat every single fear that you have. Do not just ignore your fears or bury them. They will not go away without a fight. Take them on - head on - with the Word of God.

• Participate in deliverance for Fear.

• Get into the Word of God daily. Read scriptures on faith and the blessings and promises of God.

For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us. 2 Corinthians 1:20.

• Rebuke fear when it tries to attack. Do not accept fear. Replace it with God's Word.

Tell the devil that God has not given you a spirit of fear, and you are not going to take it from him! Take charge of your mind, with the help of God. Replace fearful thoughts with faithful thoughts.

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ. 2 Corinthians 10:3-5

• Thank the Lord for your healing and deliverance! He is so deserving of our praise!

Ministry for The Root of Fear

In order to complete deliverance from the Root of Fear and all of its branches (underlings), you should now pray the following prayer of repentance and renunciation:

Say this prayer out loud:

Father God, I repent for and renounce the Root of Fear and all its underlings in my life and coming through my generations. In the name of Jesus Christ I now break covenant with the Root of Fear and all its underlings. I ask for forgiveness and that all curses be broken in the name of Jesus Christ.

For each of the following spirits, speak the following prayer out loud:

In the name of Jesus Christ, I take authority over the spirit of ______ and I break your power over my life. In the name of Jesus Christ I cast out the spirit of ______ and order it to leave me now.

Root: Fear

Underlings:

Lack of Trust in God Fears About Finances: Fear of Evil: Fear of Fear of Lack, Poverty, Evil Spirits, Fear of Satan Losing Money, Recessions, Worry Losing Home, Losing Job Fear of Deliverance Loss of Investments Fear of Not Being Delivered Anxiety Fear of Losing Deliverance Fear of Losing Healing Dread Fear of Surroundings: Heights, Bridges, Elevators Crowds, Crowded Rooms Distress Fear of Public Speaking Hospitals, Small Spaces Panic Fear of the Unknown Fears of Certain Activities: Timidity Flying, Swimming, Driving Fear of Death, Fear of Dying Falling, Stepping on Cracks Fear of Dying from Disease Going to Doctor/Dentist Fear of Dying Process Fear of Man Fear of Tomorrow Fear of Other People: Fear of God being Angry Fear of Future Fear of Other Races, Fear Fear of God not of Men/Women. Fear of Forgiving, Fear of Losing Your Salvation Lack of Trust in God Immigrants Fears at Night: Night Terror Fear of: Fear of Fear Nightmares, Insomnia, Fear of Fear of the Unknown Being Attacked/Robbed the Dark, Fear of the Night Home Being Broken Into Falling, Drowning, Getting Fear of Loved Ones Not Sick, Suffering, Suffocating Fears About Your Life/Future: Coming to Salvation Aging, Disease, Losing, Getting Swine Flu, Terrorist Success, Rejection, Failure, Attacks Spirit of Infirmity Being Alone, Abandonment Fear of Environment: Spirits of Death and Fears Concerning Relationships: Storms, Hurricanes, Fires Destruction Fear of Divorce, Fear of Family, Chemicals. Preservatives Fear of having a Family, Fear of Hormones in Foods, **Break Generational Curses** Losing a Spouse, Fear of Losing Pesticides, Fires, Fear of Cancel Programming a Child **Certain Foods**

Now pray the following prayer out loud:

Father God, thank you for my healing and deliverance from the Root of Fear. Help me to stay free from this spirit and all of its underlings. And now Father God, I pray for a fresh filling of the Holy Spirit to fill me and take the place of all the spirits that have been cast out. Fill me completely with the Holy Spirit, in Jesus' name I pray.

Chapter 7

The Root of Occultism

Occult is defined as: To hide from site; to conceal by occultation.

Not revealed, secret. Matters regarded as involving the action or influence of supernatural agencies or some secret knowledge of them. (*Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary*, ©1977)

Occultism is:

Occult theory or practice; belief in or study of the action or influence of supernatural powers. (*Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary*, ©1977)

Satan hides himself within occult practices. He makes them look harmless, or even beneficial. But Satan is a liar and the father of lies. When he tells you something is good for you, you can count on the fact that he his lying.

He (Satan) was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, because he is a liar and the father of it. John 8:44

Occultism involves supernatural influences, other than God. God tells us plainly in the Ten Commandments what His heart is regarding loyalty towards Him:

You shall have no other gods before Me.

You shall not make for yourself a carved image - any likeness of anything that is in the heaven above, or in the earth below, or that is in the water under the earth; You shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate me. Exodus 20:3-5

Occultism is in its essence, idolatry. It is putting something or someone ahead of God. When we fall into the occult, we are putting our trust in a god other than the One True God. This is strictly forbidden many times in the Bible. For example:

You shall not eat anything with blood, nor shall you practice divination or soothsaying. Give no regard to mediums and familiar spirits; do not seek after them, to be defiled by them; I am the Lord your God. Leviticus 19:26, 31

There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, or one who practices witchcraft, or a soothsayer, or one who interprets omens or a sorcerer, or one who conjures spells, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead. For all who do these things are an abomination to the Lord. Deuteronomy 18:10-12

God forbids occultism because He knows it will hurt us. The result of occult involvement is almost always demonic attack. It is an open door for the enemy to invade our lives. Some possible manifestations of this attack are:

| Fear | No relationship with God | Fall asleep while |
|-----------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Torment | Cannot understand the Bible | reading Bible |
| Terror | Fuzzy thinking | Controlling spirit |
| Confusion | Chaotic, scrambled thinking | |
| Rebellion | Stubbornness | |

Involvement in the occult may also result in sickness and disease. Under Mosaic law, it meant a death sentence:

• You shall not permit a sorceress to live. Exodus 22:18

 $^{\cdot}$ He who sacrifices to any god, except to the Lord only, he shall be utterly destroyed. Exodus 22:20

• A man or woman who is a medium, or who has familiar spirits, shall surely be put to death. Leviticus 20:27

Past or continued involvement in occultism can bring upon us a curse - it can lead to illness and can stand in the way of our healing. It can bring marital problems, financial difficulties and other issues into our lives. We must be resolved to root out all occultism from our lives.

Branches of the Tree of Occultism

Idolatry

This is the trunk of occultism. It is the desire to choose for ourselves who/what we will worship. It a mind-set of ME. I will decide what is best for me. I am above all others. No one will tell ME what to do. I am the god of my own life.

It is a rebellious spirit and it started in the garden of Eden when Adam and Eve came into agreement with Satan that they should be as god.

Then the serpent said to the woman, you will not surely die. For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, *and you will be like God*, knowing good and evil. Genesis 3:4-5

This attitude fits very well with the New Age movement which tells us that we are our own gods and that there is no "one-way" to God.

Idolatry can be self-idolatry - self-worship, where we put ourselves at the center of our universe. Or, it can be putting other persons before God - such as our spouse, children, friends, etc. It can be putting things before God - such as sports, money, job, ministry, etc. Anything that gets put into our #1 position, ahead of God, is an idol to us.

In order to tear down the tree of Occultism and kill the root, we must first destroy idolatry. We must resolve that the One True God is the only Person we will worship. The only Person we will trust. And the only Person we will seek after to reveal the purpose of our life. When we do this, we are positioned to pull out the entire Root of Occultism, along with all its evil branches.

False Religions

A false religion is one that is inconsistent with God's Word. Some of these are:

| Hinduism | Mother Earth/Nature Worship |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Buddhism | Kabala |
| Mormonism | Baha'ism |
| Islam | Goddess Worship |
| Jehovah's Witness | Angel Worship |
| Christian Science | Rosicrucianism |
| Humanism | Satanism |
| Theosophy | Atheism |
| Scientology | Unitarianism |

The Eastern Religions are gaining much popularity in the United States. They are also the basis for the New Age movement.

<u>Buddhism</u>: was started by a Hindu priest, Siddhartha Gautama, who set out to discover why there was so much suffering in the earth. After many days of meditation, he entered into an altered state of consciousness and received the revelation that resulted in Buddhism. This is that Life is chiefly composed of suffering and it is possible to escape from suffering. The way to escape is through reincarnation and nirvana - an altered state of consciousness where you are not aware of your body and its needs. Buddhism believes there is no god. The goal is to live successive lives, each coming closer to that state of nirvana. When nirvana is finally achieved, we cease to exist.

<u>Hinduism</u>: tells us that all is One. We are One with nature, One with the universe, One with all living things. In Hinduism, everything and everyone is god. The goal is to become One with the universe and leave behind this physical existence that causes suffering. This is done by entering into an altered state of consciousness and becoming part of the Brahman-Atman, the Impersonal Supreme One (True Reality). So, in Hinduism man can use his own effort and inner knowledge to attain union with Brahman-Atman. When we achieve this union with True Reality or One with Self, then Enlightenment is achieved.

Hinduism includes the concept of reincarnation. We must continue to live life after life as we seek to achieve this state of Enlightenment.

<u>Yoga</u>: Yoga is a spiritual technique by which Hindus can detach from this world of illusion. It is a means by which we can enter into an altered stated of consciousness and attain union with Braham. Yoga is much more than simply stretching and exercise. It is a means by which we enter into the state of Enlightenment.

The goal of Yoga is to discipline mind and body such that one can detach his mind until he loses awareness of the physical world. The physical world is an illusion in Hinduism. Yoga includes meditation techniques that allow one to transcend the physical and intellectual and become one with the Impersonal Universe.

<u>Christian Yoga</u>: Yoga is Hindu. Hinduism cannot be separated from Yoga. Although Hindu authors will tell you that Yoga promotes health and fitness, they will also tell you that this is not its primary purpose. Its purpose is to lead one to apprehend the Absolute, Ultimate Reality, called the Brahman Reality or god. It's roots are Hindu. Efforts to separate yoga from its spiritual center reveal ignorance of the goal of yoga. *(Subhas R. Riwari. Professor at Hindu University of America)*

<u>Satanism</u>: This involves the overt worship of Satan. Halloween is included in this religion. It is believed to be a high holy day for those practicing Satanism and witchcraft.

<u>Mardi Gras</u>: The origins of Mardi Gras were most likely around the second century. Ancient Romans observed a festival call *Lupercalia*. It was a circus-type festival around the month of February honoring a pastoral god named Lupercus. When Christianity arrived in Rome, the early Christians decided it would be more prudent to incorporate certain aspects of such pagan rituals into their new faith, rather than abolish them altogether. But Mardi Gras remains as it started, a festival honoring a pagan god.

New Age Movement

The New Age Movement is nothing new. It has been around for thousands of years. It is based on Eastern forms of religion, such as Hinduism and Buddhism. The real goal of the New Age movement is to break with Western religion and look to the Eastern religions for our needs. Reincarnation is a basic belief of the New Age. The New Age movement is not a centralized religion, but most practitioners of New Age doctrine desire to move into a higher more perfected state of being. This higher realm is "The New Age" or "the Dawning of Aquarius". This is the anticipation and goal of the New Age Movement. For many New Agers, the means by which one attains this goal is by coming into an altered state of consciousness through meditation and other techniques.

Mind Control

Mind control is a big part of the New Age movement. The goal is an altered state of consciousness. It means blanking or emptying out your mind completely so that you can achieve this altered state between consciousness and unconsciousness. It is to connect you with your inner-self and with the oneness of the universe. It is supposed to allow you to control your spirit and achieve a higher consciousness.

The problem with an altered state of consciousness is that when you blank out your mind, you leave yourself wide open for demonic attack. Instead of controlling your spirit, you leave it undefended. Evil spirits are allowed entrance. You are like a city without walls.

Whoever has no rule over his own spirit is like a city broken down, without walls. Proverbs 25:28

Some methods for achieving an altered state of consciousness are:

Transcendental Meditation (TM) Mantras Hypnosis Drug Trips Mind Dynamics (self-hypnosis) Silva Mind Control - used to develop ESP and tap into a higher state of consciousness. Once you achieve this state, you can connect with higher intelligence for guidance. You can also project your thoughts to achieve certain goals. Biofeedback - also can be used to produce an altered state of consciousness. It can involve training a person to control their spirit and body.

Divination

Divination often involves predictions of the future. However, it does not always involve looking into the future. It can be focused on the here and now. It involves by-passing a prayer life with God and going to God to discover His plan for our life. Instead, we opt for a short-cut and the demonic route. King Saul by-passed God when the Holy Spirit departed from him and he needed advice on going to war.

And when Saul inquired of the Lord, the Lord did not answer him, either by dreams or by Urim or by the prophets. Then Saul said to his servants, find me a woman who is a medium, that I may go to her and inquire of her. 1 Samuel 28:6-7

The medium, or spiritist will often have a familiar spirit that knows about you and can give accurate information about you and your life. This information is used as a hook to get you to believe that the person will be able to predict your future. Acceptance of a prediction given by divination can result in a curse. By accepting the prediction, you may well have set into motion a course of events that will allow the prediction to come true. Remember, Satan has a plan for

your life. It is to kill, steal and destroy. John 10:10. And he is more than happy to tell you what the plan is and get your cooperation into putting it into place.

Some occult practices of divination are:

| Tarot Cards | Magic 8 Ball |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Palm Reading | Crystal Ball |
| Astrology/horoscopes | False prophets |
| Tea Leaf Reading | I Ching |
| Numerology | Psychics |
| Aura Reading | Handwriting Analysis |

Witchcraft

Wicca is the official religion of witchcraft. Covens are groups of witches that practice the craft. Witchcraft is all about control and manipulation. This is accomplished through curses, spells, sacrifices and other methods.

However, spirits of witchcraft can operate in our lives even though we are not involved in Wicca and the "formal" practice of witchcraft. Some ways witchcraft can creep into our lives are:

Matriarchal Control - this is where the wife/mother is the dominant person in the household. It goes against God's order for the home and it involves the woman in control of most aspects of the home.

Jezebel and Ahab spirits - these spirits operate in the home, workplace, church, everywhere. Jezebel spirits seek to lead or to dominate a leader. Ahab spirits work to subdue the leader such that the Jezebel spirit can gain control. Many times Jezebel spirits work in women, but they also may work in men.

Harry Potter - is all about witchcraft and is a subtle way Satan is teaching his ways to our children.

When we control, manipulate and intimidate others, we are operating in a spirit of witchcraft.

Channeling and Spirit Guides

Channeling involves a person allowing an evil spirit to possess him for some form of psychic knowledge or power or to use his voice to communicate a message. Channeling occurs through the use of meditation, visualization, hypnosis, altered states of consciousness and other means.

Spirit guides are becoming quite popular in certain parts of our country. In this occult technique, a person believes he is assigned a certain spirit who speaks through him. This spirit can be called up upon demand. It can be a lucrative occupation, with folks paying good money for a sitting with a spirit guide. The spirit will give advice, provide spiritual teaching, diagnose illness, tell you about your deceased loved ones, etc.

Another form of channeling involves writing. With automatic writing - the person opens himself up to be used by a spirit to communicate a message. The person holds a pencil loosely in his hand and waits for the spirit to take control of his hand and begin writing.

Occult Methods of Channeling include:

| Mediums and Spiritists | Automatic Writing |
|---|---|
| Dungeons and Dragons | Séances |
| Ouija boards | Water witching |
| Some Inner Healing modalities | Course of Miracles (person claimed to channel |
| Spirit Guides | a spirit named Jesus Christ) |
| Seth Materials (spirit called Seth gave | Ascended Masters (higher beings who claim |
| over 1500 messages) | to oversee affairs of men) |

Unfortunately for those who participate in channeling, the spirits involved are not benevolent spirits, but demons on assignment from Satan. They are lying and deceiving spirits and they have one purpose, to draw you into a life without God.

Necromancy

This is attempting to contact the spirit of a person who has died. Remember the movie *Ghost* with Demi Moore, Patrick Swayze and Whoopie Goldberg? Whoopie Goldberg was medium who channeled messages from the deceased Patrick Swayze. The Lord has strictly forbidden necromancy:

There shall not be one among you who . . . calls up the dead. Deuteronomy 18:11

When we participate in necromancy, we are not communicating with our deceased loved one. We are communicating with the demonic world. We are speaking with a demon who is impersonating the deceased. This demon may well have very accurate information about the deceased person and his family. But the knowledge is not coming from the deceased. It is not coming from God. It is coming from the demonic realm. And dabbling in this method of occultism, like all others, opens us up to curses and attacks from evil spirits.

Some ways in which these demonic impersonators are called up are through:

| Séances | Altered State of Consciousness |
|----------|--------------------------------|
| Hypnosis | Ungodly Meditation |

Astral Projection

This involves your spirit leaving your body and moving about in the spiritual realm. This is done at the person's will, or by direction of an evil spirit.

<u>Martial Arts</u>

Martial Arts include:

| Tai Chi | Kung Fu |
|---------|---------|
| Karate | Aikido |
| Judo | |

The martial arts have their origins in Eastern Religions of Buddhism and Daoism. They cannot be separated from these religions.

What about Christian Karate?

This is like Christian Yoga. It is an oxymoron. Karate is Zen Buddhism. The aim of Zen is to awaken the student to his true self and bring about self-knowledge through inward meditation. Ungodly meditation opens one up to demonic activity. The spiritual implications of karate cannot be ignored. It is founded on Eastern Religions and should not be a part of a Christian's life.

Guided Imagery and Creative Visualization

This involves meditative imaging and visualization. Meditation techniques are used to have you visualize that which you desire - promotions, material possessions, healings, relationships, etc. Occult visualization says that man has innate psychic powers to create, as does God. This is consistent with the New Age movement and Eastern religions because in them, we are god. Our minds control reality and so if we control our minds, we can change our reality.

Magic

| Black Magic | Voodoo | Sorcery |
|-------------|----------|---------|
| White Magic | Wizardry | |

Black Magic - or dark magic draws on evil spirits to produce evil or hurtful acts or deliberately cause harm in some way. This is also known as dark arts or dark side magic. Used to gain power, wealth or get revenge.

White Magic - is supposed to be the opposite of black magic in that it's purposes are benevolent, or helpful. In reality, all magic is demonic and offensive to God. Many TV shows and books glamorize magic, witches, wizards, etc. They are shown as assisting detectives, solving problems and fighting evil. It is a subtle way Satan is getting us to accept sorcery and witchcraft into our homes.

Sorcery - use of power gained from assistance or control of evil spirits - for divination, necromancy, magic, witchcraft.

Voodoo - Voodoo has its roots in West Africa and came to the United States via the slave trade. It is also very common in Haiti. Voodoo practitioners believe in one god, but they communicate with this god through many spirits, which have power over nature and humans.

Superstitions

These include things such as:

| Amulets | The number 13 |
|----------------|--------------------|
| Dream catchers | Fear of black cats |
| Charms | Crystals |

We are to put our faith in God, not objects that have no power.

Secret Societies and Organizations

| Fraternities and Sororities | Freemasonry |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Mystic Societies | Eastern Star |
| KKK | |

Secret organization many times requires oaths that are contrary to Christian doctrine. In addition, Christ proclaimed a Gospel that was open to all. Secret organizations usually purport to give hidden truths and benefits not allowed to outsiders.

Occult Books, Games and Movies

Dungeons and Dragons Occult Video Games Harry Potter Books Science Fiction books and movies

Movies such as:GhostThe OmenAlienPsychoThe ExorcistHalloweenThese movies induce fear and open up the demonic realm to those watching.

New Age - Alternative Medicine

Many of the Alternative medicine/New Age techniques are based on Eastern Religions. These include:

| Ayurvedic Medicine | Iridology |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Chinese Healing Modalities | Holistic health |
| Acupuncture | Aroma therapy |
| Acupressure | Pendulum diagnosis |
| Biofeedback | Hypnotism |
| Psychic Healing | Occultic Forms of Massage |

| Reflexology | Psychic Healing |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Reiki | Inner Healing Modalities |
| Therapeutic Touch | Visualization and Guided Imagery |
| Chi | Course in Miracles |
| Yin Yang | Nambudripod's Allergy Elimination |
| Yoga | Technique(NAET) |
| Homeopathy | Chiropropractic - By DD Palmer |
| Wilhelm Reich/NeoReichian massage | Rolfing |
| Metaphysical Healing | Applied Kinesiology |
| | |

Below is some additional information on these New Age healing methods:

Ayurvedic Medicine /Deepak Chopra - This method has its origins in the Hindu religion.

<u>Chinese systems of healing</u> - Chinese healing focuses on chi which is an invisible energy or force alleged to make up the universe and flow through all living things via meridians, or chakras. The chakras are centers for cosmic energy in the human body that are aligned to allow Kundalini energy to proceed from the base of the spine to the top of the forehead. This chi energy consists of two opposite energy forces called yin and yang. The entire universe is made of this energy. The key to spiritual, mental and physical well-being is by balancing yin and yang energies.

<u>Acupuncture</u> - Is a Chinese healing method whereby needles or hand pressure (in acupressure) is applied to certain points in the body to balance yin and yang and unblock chakras. Acupuncturists tout this technique as able to heal emotional problems such as anxiety and depression and as well as many physical ailments - headaches, ulcers, arthritis, sciatica, asthma, etc.

<u>Biofeedback</u> - Involves the use of electronic instruments monitoring brain waves and skin resistance. The goal is to modify the brain waves. The patient learns to control heart rates and generate brain activity at their will in order to enter into an altered state of consciousness.

<u>Applied Kinesiology</u> - Sometimes called muscle testing. Often patients will hold health care products such as vitamins and herbs in their hand while the practitioner pulls on an appendage such as finger or arm to determine the effectiveness or dosage of the product.

<u>Psychic Healing</u> - is a holistic modality whereby healing "energy" is imparted through touch or hand movements by the practitioner over the patient.

<u>Psychic Surgery</u> - practitioner makes a mock incision using only his bare fingers to push down on area and then pretends to pull out the offending matter, such as a tumor.

<u>Reflexology</u> - a practice that is said to heal the body by massaging certain parts of the foot or hand that correspond to major organs of the body. Some believe that reflexology opens blocked chakras in the body, thus allowing the chi energy to flow.

<u>Reiki</u> - is a New Age method that involves the movement of the practitioners hand over, but not touching the patient's body to balance and direct energy chakras.

<u>Therapeutic Touch</u> - Therapists move their hands over the patient, but do not touch the patient. This is supposed to release the body's natural psychic energy and bring physical healing.

<u>Homeopathy</u> - homeopathic practitioners believe that illnesses should be treated by giving them diluted substances that produce symptoms similar to the illness.

<u>Iridology</u> - purports to allow one to diagnose diseases by reading the color pattern of the iris. Some believe emotional and mental problems can be diagnosed as well.

Aroma Therapy - purports to heal diseases by inhaling scented steam or fragrances.

<u>Hypnotism/Hypnotherapy</u> - uses an altered state of consciousness. It is believed that the patient can be convinced to give up addictions and remember buried memories under hypnosis.

<u>Course in Miracles</u> - Written by Helen Schucman who was a channel for a spirit who called himself Jesus. This evil spirit informed Ms. Schucman that the world, sin and sickness were all illusions. Man is still in heaven with God and this life is but a dream.

<u>Nambudripod's Allergy Elimination Technique</u>(NAET) - system of diagnosis and treatment based on the theory that allergies are caused by energy blockage that can be diagnosed with muscle testing and cured with acupuncture or acupressure

<u>Chiropropractic - By DD Palmer</u> - his theories revolve around the idea that altered nerve flow is the cause of all disease and that misaligned vertebrae have an effect on this nerve flow. Believed like Mary Baker Eddy (Christian Science) that he received his ideas from "the other world". Believed a religion should be founded with him as the leader.

Many chiropractors are not engaging in alternative/new age healing methods in their practices, but some do follow the Taoist principal of facilitating the flow of chi to promote healing.

<u>Wilhelm Reich/NeoReichian massage</u> - Reich believed that a universal life force called orgone energy flowed through all things. He felt that most disease was a result of obstructions to the orgone energy. Muscle manipulation was thought to unblock this flow.

<u>Rolfing</u> - this technique is a type of deep tissue massage that is supposed to realign the body and harmonize its movement in relation to gravity.

<u>Pendulum diagnosis</u> - pendulum is used to detect movements of the wrist muscle. The response of the pendulum is used to diagnose various illnesses

<u>Metaphysical Healing</u> - believes that negative thought patterns can cause illness. But turns the patient inward to get cure. Patient is to connect with higher-self, the subconscious mind. Says that you are your own healer.

This is by no means a complete list of all Alternative/New Age healing techniques. But it does give a flavor of the way the enemy tries to hook us into the occult. We must reject all false teachings that mask themselves as ways to healing and wholeness that are not consistent with the Bible.

Removing the Root of Occultism

• Repent for all involvement in occult activities.

Repent for each specific activity that you became involved with – no matter how old you were or how serious you were about it. The Lord forbids all dabbling in the occult.

- Participate in deliverance from the Occultism.
- Break all generational curses of Occultism.
- Fill your mind immediately with the Word of God.

If you have been involved in ungodly meditation whereby you have allowed your mind to become passive, this is very important. You must <u>actively</u> pursue the knowledge of the Lord. Read your Bible, take Bible study classes, join a good Bible based church and get involved!

• Throw away all books, manuals and paraphernalia that has anything to do with the occult.

Throw away all statues, charms, jewelry and other items that were a part of any occult practice or false religion. Do not save any of it. Do not give it away. Do not donate it to used bookstores or thrift shops. Get rid of it.

In Deuteronomy, the Lord spoke to the children of Israel about destroying the false gods when they entered the land:

But thus you shall deal with them: you shall destroy their altars, and break down their sacred pillars and cut down their wooden images and burn their carved images with fire. Deut 7:5

You shall burn the carved images of their gods with fire, you shall not covet the silver or gold that is on them, nor take it for yourselves, lest you be snared by it, for it is an abomination to the Lord your God. Nor shall you bring an abomination into your house, lest you be doomed to destruction like it. You shall utterly detest it and utterly abhor it, for it is an accursed thing. Deut 7:25 - 26

In Acts, when people came to Christ who had been involved in magic, they destroyed their occult books:

Also many of those who had practiced magic brought their books together and burned them in the sight of all. And they counted up the value of them, and it totaled fifty thousand pieces of silver. Acts 19:19

• Thank the Lord for your deliverance and healing. Give Him all the praise and worship!

Ministry for The Root of Occultism

In order to complete deliverance from Occultism and all of its branches (underlings), you should now pray the following prayer of repentance and renunciation:

Say this prayer out loud:

Father God, I repent for and renounce the Root of Occultism and all its underlings in my life and coming through my generations. In the name of Jesus Christ I now break covenant with the Root of Occultism and all its underlings. I ask for forgiveness and that all curses be broken in the name of Jesus Christ.

For each of the following spirits, speak the following prayer out loud:

In the name of Jesus Christ, I take authority over the spirit of ______ and I break your power over my life. In the name of Jesus Christ I cast out the spirit of ______ and order it to leave me now.

Root: Occultism

Underlings:

Idolatry Channeling & Spirit Guides: Martial Arts: Ouija Board Tai Chi Automatic Writing Mind Control: Karate Trances Seances Kung Fu Mantras **Table Tipping** Aikido **Transcendental Meditation** Water Witching **Biofeedback** Seth Materials Magic & Wizardry Sylva Mind Control Dungeons & Dragons Black Magic **Course of Miracles** White Magic Hypnosis Ascended Masters Voodoo **False Religions** Sorcery (see list above) Necromancy: Hexes Séances Spells Prayers to the Dead Evil Eye New Age Movement Curses Divination: Astral Projection Vampire Fascination Tarot Cards Werewolf Fascination Palm Reading Guided Imagery and **Tea Leaf Reading** Creative Visualization: Subliminal Suggestion Third Eye **Mystic Societies** Magic 8-ball Ungodly Motivational Secret Societies Astrology techniques Certain Inner Healing Horoscopes Occult Books, Games, **Psychic Readings** modalities Movies, Video Games ESP The Secret Native American Rituals Sweat Lodges, Dream Witchcraft, Controlling **Superstitions** Spirit, Matriarchal Control Catchers, Totem Poles Yoga, "Christian" Yoga New Age Alternative Medicines (see above)

I break all generational curses coming through Occultism and I cancel all programming for Occultism, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Now pray the following prayer out loud:

Father God, thank you for my healing and deliverance from the Root of Occultism. Help me to stay free from this spirit and all of its underlings. And now Father God, I pray for a fresh filling of the Holy Spirit to fill me and take the place of all the spirits that have been cast out. Fill me completely with the Holy Spirit, in Jesus' name I pray.

Chapter 8

The Baptism With The Holy Spirit

Believers need to have the Holy Spirit to stay free of the spiritual issues that we once were entangled with. The Holy Spirit gives us power to overcome the kingdom of darkness. We recommend that all Christians become baptized with the Holy Spirit. So we are including this lesson to get you started, or reacquainted with the Holy Spirit baptism

There is a great deal of confusion and misunderstanding concerning the baptism with the Holy Spirit and the baptism with water. This lesson lays out the sequence of events that lead up to the baptism with the Holy Spirit. It also explains both the baptism with water and the baptism with the Holy Spirit.

The Baptism with Water

John the Baptist was the forerunner before Jesus, preparing the way for Jesus' arrival. Isaiah prophesied about John's coming.

The voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Isaiah 40:3

In those days there appeared John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judea, and saying repent for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand. Matthew 3:1-2

"Repent" from the Greek translation means to think differently or to reconsider.

John the Baptist said, I indeed baptize you in water, unto repentance but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. Matthew 3:11

John had the authority to baptize with water, for the repentance of sins. The baptism of water was an outward sign of an inward change.

Jesus' Holy Spirit Baptism

Jesus was the first person to receive the baptism with the Holy Spirit. Jesus came to be baptized by John the Baptist.

When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. Matthew 3:16

The Spirit of God is the Holy Spirit. When Jesus came up out of the water, the Holy Spirit entered Him and He received power and began His ministry.

When Did the New Birth Begin?

After Jesus was crucified and arose from the dead, He appeared to His disciples.

So Jesus said to them, "Peace be with you! As My Father has sent Me, I also send you." And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit." John 20:21-22

Up until this time, the disciples walked with Jesus, and believed in Him. But, after Jesus' death and resurrection, the disciples:

• Became born again/received salvation. It was not possible to receive salvation until after Jesus died for our sins and was risen from the dead. He paid the price for our sins with his death and resurrections.

• Received a measure of the Holy Spirit, but were not baptized with the Holy Spirit.

• Were relieved of the Law of Moses (Old Covenant) and began living under the New Covenant.

Baptism with the Holy Spirit

In Acts, Jesus spoke about the promise of the Holy Spirit.

And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, which He said, "you have heard from Me. For John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." Acts 1:4-5

So even though in John 20:22, Jesus breathed on the disciples and gave them the Holy Spirit, they did not receive the baptism with the Holy Spirit. They were to wait for this in Jerusalem.

The Spirit was poured out on the Day of Pentecost

The prophet Joel foretold the day that the Holy Spirit would be poured out:

And it shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy. Your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions. And also on My menservants and maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days. Joel 2:28-29

Joel's prophesy was fulfilled on the day of Pentecost

And when the day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Holy Spirit gave them utterance. Acts 2:1-4

• This pouring out of the Holy Spirit was not just for the disciples, but it is for all who seek it. It is for us today.

Baptism with Water is not Baptism with the Holy Spirit

In Acts 8, we are given an example of the baptism with Water followed by the baptism with the Holy Spirit. Philip the Evangelist went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed the Christ (the Messiah) to them:

And when they believed the good news about the Kingdom of God in the name of Jesus Christ, as Philip preached it, they were baptized, both men and women. Acts 8:5, 12

• They were baptized with water.

Now when the Apostles of Jerusalem heard that the country of Samaria had accepted and welcomed the Word of God they sent Peter and John to them. They came down and prayed for them that the Samaritans might receive the Holy Spirit. For He had not yet fallen on any of them. But they had only been baptized in the name of Lord Jesus (with water). Acts 8:14-15

Then the Apostles Peter and John <u>laid their hands on them</u>, one by one, and they received the Holy Spirit. Acts 8:17

• When the Apostles laid hands on the people, they were baptized with the Holy Spirit.

In Acts 19 we read about Paul ministering at Ephesus.

And finding some disciples he (Paul) said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" So they said to him, "We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit." And he said to them, "Into what then were you baptized?" So they said, "Into John's baptism." Acts 19: 1-3

And when Paul laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them and they spoke with tongues and prophesied. Acts 19:6

As you can see from these Scriptures, the baptism with water and the baptism with the Holy Spirit were two separate events. They did not take place at the same time. The believers were converted, and baptized in water, but still needed to receive the baptism with the Holy Spirit.

You Can Never Have Enough of the Holy Spirit

Back in Acts 2:1-4, we saw how the Holy Spirit came upon the group in a powerful way as they waited in the upper room. Yet in Acts 4:24-31, we see that this group was meeting and praying together - and they received a fresh filling of the Holy Spirit!

And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness. Acts 4:31

So we see that there is a baptism with water, a baptism with the Holy Spirit and fresh fillings (additional anointing) of the Holy Spirit. You can never have enough of the Holy Spirit!

Why Do We Need the Baptism with the Holy Spirit?

We need the baptism with the Holy Spirit to give us power to do the ministry of Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit gives you power.

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. Acts 1:8

After the disciples became born again in John 20:21-22, they were still not endowed with power to undertake the Great Commission. They did not preach the Gospel. The Apostles did not perform miracles until after Pentecost. They needed the Holy Spirit power to do this.

• Upon receiving the baptism with the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, there was no stopping the disciples. Peter immediately began preaching about Jesus and 3000 were saved and added to the church. See Acts 2:14-41

• Also, many signs and wonders and miracles were performed by the Apostles. Acts 2:43

Jesus did not begin His ministry until He was baptized with the Holy Spirit. He did not do any miracles or healings until He received the power of the Holy Spirit.

Many of us desire to serve the Lord. We want to preach the Gospel. We want to see signs and wonders and miracles. In order to fulfill our calling, we must have the Holy Spirit. We must be baptized with the Holy Spirit, with fire and power.

How to Receive the Baptism with the Holy Spirit

The way to receive the baptism with the Holy Spirit is not difficult:

Ask for the Holy Spirit:

If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him. Luke 11:13

• Ask God to give you the Holy Spirit.

Thirst for the Holy Spirit:

On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out his heart will flow rivers of living water." But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. John 7:37-39

• God does not force Himself on anyone. He desires that we seek after Him. He desires that we want more of Him. If you do not want more of the Holy Spirit, so be it, God will not make you receive. However, if you earnestly seek after more, He will bless you with the Holy Spirit.

<u>Surrender</u> your life to God:

I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. John 15:5,7

• Here, to abide is to continue with, to endure with, and to surrender. If we surrender our life to Jesus, then He will pour out the Holy Spirit on us.

It is not required that someone lay hands on you to receive the Holy Spirit. If you are surrendered to the Lord and are thirsting after God and His Spirit, you just need to ask God for the baptism with the Holy Spirit. However, it is most common for people to receive the Holy Spirit by the laying on of hands. Holy Spirit filled believers can impart the baptism with the Holy Spirit for other believers. This was the procedure used by Peter and John with the new believers in Samaria in Acts 8:17

All believers should seek after the baptism with the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit gives us power to live a victorious Christian life. In addition, those called to minister for the Lord Jesus, are not fully equipped without the baptism of the Holy Spirit. God wants to empower you. All you need to do is seek, ask and surrender.

Chapter 9

A Lesson on Tongues

There is confusion in the church today regarding tongues. We hope we can clarify this for you in this short lesson on tongues.

The first thing we need to understand is that when we speak of tongues, that there is the gift of tongues and praying in tongues or praying in the Spirit.

The Spiritual Gift of Tongues

God tells us of the nine Spiritual Gifts in 1 Corinthians:

For to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, to another faith, by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings, by the same Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophesy, to another discerning of spirits, *to another different kinds of tongues, to another interpretation of tongues*. But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills. 1 Corinthians 12:8-11

As we can see, one of the Spiritual Gifts is tongues and another is interpretation of tongues. These two gifts work together. When these gifts are operating in a church, God will give a message to a group of people through the person who has the gift of tongues. The message will be given, and it is given in an unknown language. The person with the gift of interpretation of tongues will provide the interpretation for all of those present. As with all of the gifts, the gift of tongues is for the profit or good of all. (1 Corinthians 12:7)

Paul tells us that we should not forbid the gift of tongues from operating in the church, but that it should be done in good order:

If anyone speaks in tongues, let there be two or at the most three, each in turn and let one interpret. If there is no interpreter, let him keep silent in church, and let him speak to himself and to God. 1 Corinthians 14:27-28

Therefore, brethren, desire earnestly to prophesy, and do not forbid to speak with tongues. Let all things be done decently and in order. 1 Corinthians 14:39-40

The Spiritual Gift of Tongues is a very important gift because it is a sign to unbelievers. "Sign" means an *indication, miracle, token, sign or wonder*.

Therefore tongues are for a sign, not to those who believe, but to unbelievers. 1 Corinthians 14:22

So the Gifts of Tongues and Interpretation of Tongues shows the unbeliever that God is real and is present. This is why it is important that we allow these gifts to operate in our churches. We should not be fearful that it will scare unbelievers away if tongues are allowed. For, it is a gift especially designed to bring unbelievers to the Lord.

Like all Spiritual Gifts, not everyone has been given the gift of tongues or the gift of interpretation of tongues. Paul tells us in 1 Corinthians 12:11 that the Holy Spirit distributes to each of us the gifts He desires. We are not all given these gifts. It is important for pastors to discern those people in his congregation who have been gifted with these gifts so he can encourage their operation in the church.

Praying in the Spirit

The second type of "tongues" is praying in tongues or praying in the Spirit. We hear about this in several places in the New Testament. All Spirit-filled believers should have the ability to pray in the spirit (pray in tongues).

In Acts, we are told of the pouring out of the Spirit on the day of Pentecost:

And there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. Acts 2:3-4

Here, those waiting in the upper room all received the baptism with the Holy Spirit and all began to pray in tongues.

When Paul baptized the believers at Ephesus with the Holy Spirit: They spoke with other tongues and prophesied. Acts 19:6

These verses refer to praying in tongues, not the Spiritual Gift of tongues. All who were baptized in the Holy Spirit spoke or prayed in tongues and there is no reference to interpretation of tongues or spiritual gifts.

Remember, we are spirit beings who for the time-being reside in a physical body. Our heavenly Father is also a spiritual being. We can therefore communicate spirit-to-spirit, so to speak. This is praying in the Spirit or praying in tongues. Praying in the Spirit by-passes our soul (our mind and intellect). With the help of the Holy Spirit, we can pray in the Spirit, directly to God:

Likewise the Spirit also helps us in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groaning which cannot be uttered. Romans 8:26

When we do not know what to pray, we can pray in the Spirit and He will know what to pray and will pray for us just what is necessary.

In Ephesians we are directed by God to pray in the Spirit:

Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all taking the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God, *praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit*, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints. Ephesians 6:14-18

In the book of Jude, Jude wrote to believers, he referred to them as "the Called". He tells us:

But you (believers) building yourself on your most holy faith, *praying in the Holy Spirit*, keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. Jude 1:20-21

So God is telling us that we should pray in the Spirit to build our faith and increase ourselves in the love of God.

Praying in the Spirit/in tongues has been fought hard by the devil. He knows how powerful it is when we can communicate spirit-to-spirit with God. Satan cannot understand our prayers and so cannot plot against them. Praying in the Spirit builds our faith, increases our love and empowers us to advance the Kingdom of God. No wonder Satan does not want you to pray in the Spirit.

How Receive Your Prayer Language

Some of you are now saying, I would like to have this ability to pray in the Spirit. How can I begin? First, you must be baptized with the Holy Spirit. As you can see from the scriptures included in this lesson, praying in tongues is one of the most common signs that one has become baptized in the Spirit.

There are some common misconceptions about praying in tongues. One is that it will automatically take place without any participation on your part. In fact, you must get your mouth and vocal cords moving and then the Holy Spirit will pray through you. This usually means you have to start making some words as you are being filled with the Holy Spirit. Open your mouth and say something, even if is something like, la, la, or da, da, da. This will get the process started and the Holy Spirit will begin to advance and perfect your prayer language.

Do not be discouraged if at first your prayer language sounds very simple and consists of only one or two syllables. This is how it starts for most people. Keep praying in the Spirit and watch how God will change and expand your language over time.

Do not let the devil tell you that you are just making up those words. It is almost a certainty that when you get started, the devil will lie to you and tell you that you are not praying in tongues,

that you are just making it all up. Rebuke the devil and do not listen to his lies. He tries this with everyone because he does not want you to pray to God in the Spirit.

If you have not received your prayer language so you can speak to God from your spirit to His, receive the baptism with the Holy Spirit so that you can begin to use this important weapon. If you have trouble, get some help from Spirit-filled friends to get you started. Then keep practicing using your prayer language. You will find that it propels you spiritually and increases your prayer life in a big way!

Prayer for Baptism with the Holy Spirit

If you desire to receive the Baptism with the Holy Spirit, pray the following prayer out loud:

"Lord Jesus, I give you my entire life, my mind, my heart, my dreams, my emotions, my thoughts, my possessions, my family, my career, my future, my all and all. I surrender to you now spirit, soul and body. Do with me as you will. My life is in your hands.

Lord Jesus, I am thirsty for the fullness of Your Holy Spirit. I will yield my life daily to the Holy Spirit. Holy Spirit, I want to know you. I want You to be in my life, leading me and guiding me and showing me the way to Jesus. Holy Spirit, I open myself up to you now and ask that you fill me and change me in any way you desire. I am yours Holy Spirit, have your way with me.

I desire the baptism with the Holy Spirit and I receive it now by faith.

I ask that I receive my prayer language and speak in tongues now as the Holy Spirit gives me utterance."

Now begin to speak out loud in your prayer language.

Conclusion

Keep Running – Finish the Race

Congratulations! You are running the race without all of the spots, blemishes and wrinkles you once had. You have cast off sin and weights that could keep you from completing the race God has set before you. Now you need to keep running and not become hindered again. This requires vigilance:

Be sober; be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour. 1 Peter 5:5

You have become an adversary of the devil. You are doing damage to his kingdom and he does not like this. He is going to seek to get back into your life so he can stop you. The Bible tells us that:

When an unclean spirit goes out of a man, he goes through dry places, seeking rest, and finds none. Then he says, "I will return to my house from which I came." And when he comes, he finds it empty, swept, and put in order. Then he goes and takes with him seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter and dwell there; and the last state of that man is worse than the first. Matthew 12:43-45

This Scripture is not meant to frighten us or deter us from becoming delivered. It is meant as a warning that the devil is not going to leave us alone. He will come back and we must be ready.

Our house (our temple) must be filled with the Holy Spirit and with the Word of God. This is why we pray for a fresh filling of the Holy Spirit after each ministry session - so that your house is not empty. It is filled with the Holy Spirit.

You must get into the Word of God. Get into the habit of reading the Bible every day, even if it is just a Chapter or two. The Word of God is your weapon against the devil. Learn to use it effectively.

For the Word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Hebrews 4:12

In order to keep running the race, you must stand firm in your deliverance. We know the devil will try to come back. He will most likely hit you in your weak spot – those areas where you once allowed him. If you had a lot of fear, the devil will surely come back with fear. If it was bitterness, he will send offense your way to see if he can get you back into bitterness. In order to defeat the attacks, you must resist them.

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. James 4:7

Recognize and Understand the attack.

This is the purpose of the lessons on each of the Spiritual Roots. They are to help you recognize and understand when the devil is sneaking up on you. When you know it is the devil working, you can better resist him. Remember:

We do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly place. Ephesians 6:12

So when someone comes against you with offense, rejection or the like, you know that you are not really dealing with that person. You are dealing with Satan and his kingdom. You will recognize it as an attack and not take it personally. You will be able to stand firm.

Resist the Devil and His Attack.

The devil once deceived you into allowing him into your life. He will try the same trick again. But never fall for it.

Resist the attack.

<u>Rebuke</u> the devil when he comes back.

You have a great deal of authority as Spirit-filled believers. Jesus said all power had been given Him in heaven and earth. Matthew 28:18 And He has given this authority to you. Whatever you bind on earth is bound in heaven and whatever you bind in heaven is bound on earth. Matthew 18:18

You have the authority to rebuke and bind Satan and his kingdom. When Satan attacks, do not accept it. Rebuke it and resist it. You can say it out loud: I rebuke you spirit of fear! God has not given me a spirit of fear, but of power and love and a sound mind. 2 Tim 1:7 I will not allow you back in my life, in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth.

What if I stumble or fall?

Just like a runner in a foot-race, we sometimes have a misstep. We sometimes fall. But we cannot let it stop us from completing the race. Get up, dust yourself off and keep going.

<u>Repent</u>: If you find that you have succumbed to an attack, do not beat yourself up. Do not go into condemnation. Do not blame others. Simply repent and ask God to forgive you.

Break Curse: After repenting, break any curse that could have come due to the attack.

<u>*Remove Any Evil Spirit*</u>: In the name of Jesus, order that spirit that attacked you out and away from you.

<u>Thank the Lord</u>: for His forgiveness and His grace.

Stay in the Race:

We are in this race for the long haul. This race is not a sprint to the finish line. It is a marathon where we need endurance and stamina and stick-with-it-ness. Remember, God is running with us. He will never leave us nor forsake us. (Hebrews 13:5) He is our strength. So, let us not grow weary in doing well. (Galatians 6:9) We have an assignment to advance the Kingdom of God. Let's get on with it!

We pray you received major healing and deliverance using this manual for spiritual freedom. We also pray that the Lord bless you and use you mightily to advance His Kingdom!

Prayer of Salvation

If you have not yet received Jesus as your Lord and Savior, we invite you now to speak the following prayer out loud from your heart:

I acknowledge that I am a sinner and that I need a Savior. His name is Jesus. I now repent of my sins. I turn my back on sin and turn towards God. I now break covenant with the things of the world and come into covenant with the Kingdom of Heaven and its King, Jesus. I state right now that I will no longer live for myself, but I will live for Jesus. I receive forgiveness of sin and eternal life. I am a new creature today, in Jesus name.

Today, I believe in my heart and confess with my mouth that Jesus is Lord. Jesus is MY Lord. I believe that Jesus is the Messiah. I believe that Jesus died for my sins and arose from the dead after three days. Today, I receive Jesus as my Savior and as my Lord.

If you prayed this prayer from your heart, you have been moved from the kingdom of darkness into the Kingdom of God. You belong to Jesus. It is time for you to find a church to help raise you up in the ways of God. Do not waste any time on this. Find a good Bible based church and be faithful and diligent in your attendance and in serving Jesus and the church.



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