

Title: What if there is so much more II - conquering evil
Speaker: André Kruger
Date: 12 August 2012
Time: 09:00



Introduction: demons + the gospel of the kingdom

The Devil, Lucifer or Satan is a fallen angel. The devil wanted to be worshipped like God. War broke out in heaven because of that and the devil and a third of the angels were cast down to the earth. Demons are fallen angels and are evil incarnate. The greatest joy of demons is to torture or torment people. That is how they get back at God, for mankind is made in the image of God.

Indwelling: Christians are temples of the Holy Spirit, but demons also want to dwell inside people which is called "possession". Christians could also be tormented by demons who "oppress" them, which is different to possession.

"Can Christians have demons?" Christians can have whatever they want. It is our choice to either be filled with darkness or filled with light.

Luke 9:1–2 (ESV) ¹ *And he called the twelve together and gave them power and authority over all demons and to cure diseases, ² and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal.*

The Gospel of the Kingdom impacts three primary areas: (1) Salvation to lost souls, (2) Healing of the physically sick (and also broken hearts), (3) Deliverance of demonic oppression or possession, which also leads to healing.

****It has been said that 70% or more of sicknesses / illnesses are psychosomatic** i.e. fear, depression, hatred, unforgiveness all leads to different physical and mental diseases.

How to overcome evil? light vs darkness

We don't overcome evil by focusing on evil. We overcome evil by focusing on God and more of Him.

Evil is like darkness. Yet God is light. The more manifestly God is present in our lives the brighter the light shines and overcomes darkness. An obsession with evil is a distraction.

Psalms 43:3 (ESV) ³ *Send out your light and your truth; let them lead me; let them bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling!*

****What lies are you believing? What darkness is breeding in your soul?**

The pursuit of the supernatural is a pursuit of God's manifest presence, which causes more of God's glory to shine in our lives which sets us free from evil.

Wrestle against spiritual forces, not people

Ephesians 6:11–13 (ESV) ¹¹ *Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. ¹² For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the **spiritual forces of evil** in the heavenly places. ¹³ Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm.*

- The devil is a schemer. He attacks when we are vulnerable, tired and feeling weak.
- **We wrestle not with people.** It does usually feel that people are the problem. But they aren't. It is the spiritual powers at work behind people who are used to do evil. ***love the people**, and address the spirit behind the problems.
- **Jesus came to set the captives free.** People who have been taken captive by evil powers.

Jesus - the Lord (of wind and wave)

Ephesians 1:20–21 (ESV) ²⁰ *that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places,* ²¹ **far above all rule and authority and power and dominion**, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come.

- **Far above:** Heaven's armies are far superior to the hordes of hell.

Luke 8:23–25 (ESV) ²³ *and as they sailed he fell asleep. And a windstorm came down on the lake, and they were filling with water and were in danger.* ²⁴ *And they went and woke him, saying, “Master, Master, we are perishing!” And he awoke and rebuked the wind and the raging waves, and they ceased, and there was a calm.* ²⁵ *He said to them, “Where is your faith?” And they were afraid, and they marveled, saying to one another, “Who then is this, that he commands even winds and water, and they obey him?”*

- **"Who is this?"** The authority Jesus carried spoke to them about who he was.
- He **commands** winds and water, and **they obey him**.

Jesus - the Lord over demons / unclean spirits

Luke 8:26–29 (ESV) ²⁶ *Then they sailed to the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee.* ²⁷ *When Jesus had stepped out on land, there met him a man from the city who had demons.* *For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he had not lived in a house but among the tombs.* ²⁸ *When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him and said with a loud voice, “What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me.”* ²⁹ *For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many a time it had seized him. He was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the desert.)*

- **Saw Jesus:** What a response!!
- **Unclean spirit:** Demons are unclean spirits. They are dirty. **Do you want to give access to devils into your life? be unclean.** ***Beware - think before you sin.** Massive consequences.

Love that overcomes evil

**When we fear evil, we cannot conquer it.*

Luke 8:35–36 (ESV) ³⁵ *Then people went out to see what had happened, and they came to Jesus and found the man from whom the demons had gone, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind, and they were afraid.* ³⁶ *And those who had seen it told them how the demon-possessed man had been healed.*

**Jesus travelled all this way for one man. That is love.*

**Love of God - the enemy doesn't know what to do with love. Devil likes fear, but he doesn't know how to handle real love.*

Practical: Today Jesus wants to deliver you and heal you.. All you and I need to do is run to Him and let Him set us free.

Turn to the light (Jesus), get things into the light (confess) and be set free + healed