



**A BIBLICAL VIEW OF THE END TIMES**  
**Week 8: Satan's Direct Assault on Jesus Christ, Part 1**  
**June 12, 2022**  
**Instructor: Steve Schmutzer**

**I. Review**

- A. Thus far, we've seen the Nephilim agenda work its way through the pre-flood era, and through the post-flood era.
1. We've seen how God had prophesied that Satan's physical seed would be at war with the woman's physical seed until Satan would finally be crushed
- B. And so, we've identified in the Scriptures the various ways Satan has tried to prevent his own eventual destruction.
1. First, he broadly attacked the human genome before the flood.
  2. If he could totally corrupt all human genetics, he could disrupt the arrival of Jesus Christ.
  3. That's why God sent The Great Flood. It was to preserve the promise of the coming of Jesus Christ, and to preserve the plan for salvation for mankind.
  4. After the flood, the Nephilim returned through Ham's lineage. This can ONLY mean one thing: Ham's wife carried the Nephilim gene.
  5. We saw how the Biblical record carefully traces Ham's lineage, and we saw the Nephilim tribes or nations being identified by name.
- C. Last week, we saw how God then sovereignly called Abraham, and we also noted how God specified that the Messiah would come through Abraham's lineage.
1. This was a detail Satan did not overlook. Now, Satan knew he could focus on the Jewish nation in his efforts to disrupt the coming and mission of Jesus Christ.
  2. We saw how the Nephilim nations got entrenched in Israel – then called the land of Canaan, and how God had mentioned them by name to Moses, to Joshua, and even to Abraham long before the Israelites even became a nation.
  3. Also, we saw how the Israelites, when they went in to spy out the Promised Land, became intimidated by the Nephilim. These nations were 'larger and stronger' than they were.

**NOTE:** In this lesson, we come to a key juncture in this "seed war." That juncture is Jesus Christ Himself.

Satan's tactics become even more focused:

- Satan's first attack was against the human race. He went on what info he knew at the time.
- Satan's second attack was against the Jewish nation. He got some additional information that told him he could focus here.
- And today, we'll see that Satan's third attack strategy was against Jesus Christ. The Messiah has been identified (the one that will eventually destroy Satan), and so Satan pulls out all the stops to corrupt and destroy Jesus Christ Himself.
- Nothing in this whole sequence has fundamentally changed since the original prophecy back in **Genesis 3:15**. It's just the next step in the unfolding of the prophetic process.
- God told Satan, "the one would come through the seed of the woman that would utterly crush him."
- We've seen how Satan's target keeps getting smaller as he finds out more about this "One" that would bring about his own destruction.

**NOTE:** As we look at this new juncture in the whole 'seed war' process, this point at which Jesus Christ Himself arrives, we need to ask ourselves an important question: "What are demons?"

- Most Christians, and most churches, embrace the idea that demons and fallen angels are the same thing. They essentially use the two terms interchangeably. A = B, and B = A. Not true!
- However, as we will see, that's not accurate. Let's look at some background information here to help us answer this question, "What are demons?"

## II. WHEN WE READ THE NEW TESTAMENT, AND SPECIFICALLY, WHEN WE ARE INTRODUCED TO THE EARTHLY MINISTRY OF JESUS CHRIST, THE BIBLE INTRODUCES THIS ENTITY CALLED A "DEMON."

- A. For example, the first miracle mentioned in the book of Mark is of Jesus casting out a demon, also called an 'evil spirit' (***Cf. Mark 1:21-28***).
1. And as most of us already know, there are many other references of Jesus casting out demons (***Cf. Matthew 4:24; 8:16-17; Mark 1:34, 39; 3:11 Et al***).
  2. Prior to the New Testament and the onset of the earthly ministry of Jesus Christ, the Bible does not mention demons.
  3. Even the phenomenon known specifically as 'demon possession', which we read of a great deal in the **Synoptic Gospels**, is not mentioned in the Old Testament.

**The Synoptic Gospels** are Matthew, Mark and Luke collectively, as they include many of the same messages.

4. From a Biblical perspective, the entities known as 'demons' show up in the narrative once Jesus is born and begins His earthly ministry.
    - a. When Jesus Christ began His earthly ministry, demonic manifestations and activity became sharply pronounced.
    - b. They opposed Jesus at every turn. They opposed the disciples, and the early church.
  5. This is not necessarily the same case with fallen angels who we are told much about in the Old Testament. Fallen angels are mentioned multiple times there, and also their role and purpose are clear.
  6. Fallen angels have the same abilities as righteous angels, however they have chosen to rebel against God. Some of them chose to violate God's created order of things (***Cf. Genesis 6:1-4, and Jude 6***)
- B. The activity and the exorcism of demons in Jesus' ministry is mentioned in Scripture as a sign of great importance that the kingdom of God had come (***Cf. Matthew 12:28-29/Luke 11:20-21***).
1. A key takeaway here is the fact that there was something significant in the relationship between Jesus Christ and the matter of demons.

2. Demons explode onto the Biblical narrative when Jesus Christ arrives on earth.
3. Demons appear to be in conflict with the person and work of Jesus Christ.
4. So, who – or what – are they?

C. The Bible mentions several things about demons we should take note of:

1. Demons have the ability to give people great strength (**Cf. Matthew 8:28; Mark 5:3; Luke 8:29**)
2. Demons can cause humans to exhibit bizarre behavior such as living in an ancient cemetery (**Cf. Matthew 8:28; Mark 5:2; Luke 8:27**), or wearing no clothes.
3. Demons can cause humans to engage in self-mutilation (**Cf. Mark 5:5**), or to harm themselves such as jumping into fires or bodies of water (**Cf. Mark 9:22**).
4. Demons can cause seizures and adverse bodily activity or functions (**Cf. Matthew 17:14-21; Mark 9:14-29; Luke 9:37-43**),
5. They can show up in places of worship and in the public (**Mark 1:23-28; Luke 4:33-37**).
6. Demons can, through a human agent, cry out with loud voices (**Mark 1:24; Luke 4:33-34; Matthew 8:28; Mark 5:5; Luke 8:28**),
7. At other times, demons can prevent people from speaking at all (**Cf. Matthew 9:32-34; Matthew 12:22-24; Luke 11:14; Mark 9:17**).
8. Based upon the Biblical evidence, demons can cause various forms of sickness, muteness, deafness, blindness, insomnia, and mental illness.
9. A specific record of demons causing physical deformity (in this case, a severe curvature – a bending over – of the spine) is found in **Luke 13:10-16**. Here, an evil spirit caused a woman to be profoundly crippled for eighteen years.
10. When one studies all the accounts of demons in the Bible, it becomes clear that they have intelligence, personality, intention, motive, and desire.

D. The Bible gives us some other insight about demons and their nature.

1. They are restless entities that feel thirst and distress (**Cf. Matthew 12:43-44**)

*“When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none. Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth it empty, swept, and garnished.” KJV*

2. This same passage also underscores that demons have a desire to inhabit some sort of physical body – like a human or an animal.
3. When Jesus cast out the legions of demons from the two men at Gadera, the demons begged to be permitted to enter the bodies of pigs (**Cf. Mark 5:10-12**)
4. It’s in this same account that we learn the demons challenged Jesus, saying it was not yet their time for judgment. Here we have a clue that demons, whatever they are, know they are ultimately on the losing side of a grand cosmic battle.

- E. Here are a couple of other pieces of information we can derive from Scripture:
1. Demons cannot materialize on their own, that is, they cannot take on a physical form by themselves.
  2. They need to manifest through a living body, again, like a human or an animal, or through some sort of inanimate object (like moving chairs, beds, etc.).
  3. The Bible does not expressly state the vehicle/s through which demons manifest. However, it becomes quite credible when you OBSERVE the references where things are said ABOUT them, as well as statements made by demons THEMSELVES.
  4. Other references about demons state: Demons cannot POSSESS a true Christian. They can OPPRESS a believer. That is, they can harass and torment a follower of Christ, but they cannot bodily possess a Christian the same way they can possess a non-believer.
  5. I believe Jesus does not share his temple with evil spirits. The two sides cannot dwell together within one individual. There is no Biblical evidence to suggest otherwise.

So - - that brings us back to our original question: "What exactly are demons?"

### III. I BELIEVE ALL THE EVIDENCE POINTS TO ONE SINGLE CONCLUSION: DEMONS ARE DISEMBODED EVIL SPIRITS OF THE NEPHILIM.

- A. This is the ONLY natural conclusion if we have accepted all the Biblical truth we've learned up to this point.
1. We learned that God created the angels – the *b'nai Elohim* – the "sons of God" the same way God created mankind
    - a. God did this via a supernatural creative activity
    - b. Just as Adam and Eve had no earthly parents, but God created both of them miraculously, so God also created angels the same way
    - c. We saw this in *Job 38:4-7*. The angels were created before the earth was. They all celebrated the creation of the world and they sang for joy in the process.
    - d. This was before any of them, Satan himself, became fallen.
  2. But nowhere are we told that God created demons the same way. He permitted the sin and depravity by which the Nephilim came into being, but He also judged the fallen angels that were behind this evil deed.
- B. There are some additional pieces of information from the book of Enoch.
1. It's important here to understand that the book of Enoch is not inspired Scripture.
  2. Even though copies of the Book of Enoch were found alongside the Dead Sea Scrolls, I do not believe the Book of Enoch should it be regarded as part of the Biblical canon.
  3. Be that as it is, the Bible, God's divinely inspired Word, DOES quote from the book of Enoch, both *Jude and 2 Peter* do this.

4. There are multiple other extrabiblical texts which are referenced in the Scriptures and which are quoted for the facts they present and for their historical significance. These include:
  - a. The Book of the Wars of the Lord - **(Cf. Numbers 21:14-15)**
  - b. The Book of Jasher (AKA “the Scroll of the Upright One”) – **(Cf. Joshua 10:13)**
  - c. The Annals of Solomon - **(Cf. 1 Kings 11:41)**
  - d. There are multiple other extrabiblical works which are recorded and quoted from in the Scriptures.
  - e. Again – this lends credibility to their historicity and to their content, but it does not put them on the same playing field as the Scriptures themselves.
5. But getting back to The Book of Enoch, and to its information about demons. The Book of Enoch tells us several things which appear to line up with what the Bible says:
  - a. They are the ‘soul’ part of the Nephilim hybrids who were part angel and part human. The physical human part, the body, died, but the supernatural part (the angel part) lives on as a demon.
  - b. They are confined to wander this earth. They do not have access to the heavenly places the same way angels do.
  - c. Demons are unredeemable. They are cursed and will eventually be judged and thrown into hell with Satan and the fallen angels.
  - d. They are restless, in distress, thirsty, hungry, and tormented.
  - e. They need a body to inhabit, and they are always seeking one to occupy.
  - f. They work evil and oppression all the time.
  - g. These are the things the Book of Enoch tells us, among other things. All of this information lines up with what the greater counsel of the Bible has to say.
6. **NOTE:** One premise the Bible does NOT suggest – NOR is it suggested in any of the extrabiblical texts – is the idea that demons are here, or there, or carry any specific ‘sin tasks.’
  - a. It’s popular, particularly in the charismatic denominations, to label “this or that” dynamic as being caused by a demon.
  - b. These people find demons behind every tree, under every rock, and so on.
  - c. They talk about the demon of lies, the demon of lust, the demon of gambling and murder, and so on.
  - d. They claim there is the demon of COVID, the demon of heart attacks, appendicitis, and acute gas distress. This is quite ridiculous.
  - e. Yes, the Scriptures DO teach that demons can cause illness and physical adversity, but to label each and every normal expression of our finite bodies and our sinful nature as being demonic is to misunderstand and misappropriate the truth of God’s Word.

NOTE: That's a long-winded answer to the question, "What are demons?" However, I think it's important to make the right distinctions here.

#### IV. DEMONIC ACTIVITY AND THE CHURCH TODAY.

A. NOTE: As we've already seen up to this point, demons are evil.

1. They work to disrupt the person and work of Jesus Christ - - and so it naturally follows that they actively seek to disrupt the work and the efficiency of the church.
2. In **1 Tim. 4:1**, we are warned against 'doctrines of demons.' Specifically, this verse says the following:

*"The Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons"*

3. Let's deal with the obvious here. A 'doctrine' is set of truth, or teaching principles which adhere to Biblical instruction.
  - a. For example, there is the doctrine of the virgin birth. This is a fact that the Bible presents, and several important truths revolve around it.
  - b. The same can be said for the doctrine of Creation, the doctrine of Jesus Christ's incarnate nature, the doctrine of the resurrection, the doctrine of Christ's Second Coming, and so on and so on.
  - c. Since Biblical doctrines embrace Scriptural truth, then 'doctrines of demons' are those theories or teachings that ignore Biblical truth, or which seek to advance an alternate view.
  - d. Easy ones to talk about here would include evolution or the heresy that Jesus was just a very good man. There are many obvious 'doctrines of demons.'
4. Note that **1 Timothy 4:1** specifically calls attention to the problem of 'doctrines of demons' in later times.
  - a. The principle here is that the problem of lies being advanced is going to get worse as we get closer to the end.
  - b. It results in people IN the church falling away from the faith.
  - c. Let's remember that Satan is 'the father of lies', and he will do all he can to pull people away from the truth of God's Word.
  - d. I believe that 'doctrines of demons' is a dynamic that is alive and well in much of the modern church today. It results in a work-based faith, and a denial of the truth of the Gospel. In the end, it condemns those who practice such things.
5. Second, I want to emphasize the danger of "experience-based faith." This is a HUGE problem in the charismatic movement today.
6. Personal feelings are too often substituted for the basis of practicing faith.

7. Frothing in the aisles, having ecstatic seizures, babbling gibberish that nobody can interpret, engaging in 'holy laughter,' prophesying erroneously at every turn, and routinely 'casting out demons' are, in my opinion, MASSIVE warning signs of a church that has departed from the foundational truth of God's Word.
8. It's alarming for me to see the parallels between much of what goes on in charismatic churches today and the activities and dynamics of pagan / heathen cultures around the world where Satan is in full control.
9. The similarities are eerie and far too close to claim one is from God and the other is from the devil. They both are from the latter.