

Beware of An Unclean Spirit

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Mark 1:23-26 And there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit; and he cried out, Saying, Let us alone; what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth? art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art, the Holy One of God. And Jesus rebuked him, saying, Hold thy peace, and come out of him. And when the unclean spirit had torn him, and cried with a loud voice, he came out of him.

Mark 3:11 And unclean spirits, when they saw him, fell down before him, and cried, saying, Thou art the Son of God.

Mark 5:2-9 And when he was come out of the ship, immediately there met him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit, Who had his dwelling among the tombs; and no man could bind him, no, not with chains: Because that he had been often bound with fetters and chains, and the chains had been plucked asunder by him, and the fetters broken in pieces: neither could any man tame him. And always, night and day, he was in the mountains, and in the tombs, crying, and cutting himself with stones. But when he saw Jesus afar off, he ran and worshipped him, And cried with a loud voice, and said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of the most high God? I adjure thee by God, that thou torment me not. For he said unto him, Come out of the man, thou unclean spirit. And he asked him, What is thy name? And he answered, saying, My name is Legion: for we are many.

Luke 4:33-35 And in the synagogue there was a man, which had a spirit of an unclean devil, and cried out with a loud voice, Saying, Let us alone; what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth? art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art; the Holy One of God. And Jesus rebuked him, saying, Hold thy peace, and come out of him. And when the devil had thrown him in the midst, he came out of him, and hurt him not.

Luke 9:42 And as he was yet a coming, the devil threw him down, and tare him. And Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, and healed the child, and delivered him again to his father.

Acts 8:7 For unclean spirits, crying with loud voice, came out of many that were possessed with them: and many taken with palsies, and that were lame, were healed.

Webster's 1828 Dictionary

unclean

UNCLE'AN, a.

1. Not clean; foul; dirty; filthy.
3. Foul with sin. Matt. 10.
4. Not in covenant with God. 1Cor. 7.
5. Lewd; unchaste.

- I. The unclean spirit is mentioned more in the Bible than any other kind of spirit, except the Spirit of God and the Spirit of the Lord.
 - A. One time in the Old Testament and 22 times in the NT.
 - B. The unclean spirit is connected with other kinds of spirits of devils that were encountered and dealt with by Jesus and later the Apostles.
 1. Deaf and dumb spirits
 2. Physical sickness

- C. An unclean spirit is sort of like the carrier of other spirits.
 - 1. With drugs they call certain drugs gateway drugs because they are what lead to and introduce people to the stronger, more addictive, and more destructive drugs.
 - 2. The unclean spirit is like that with evil spirits.
 - 3. An unclean spirit precedes the total control of other evil spirits.
- D. The unclean spirit is manifested in the Bible by these marks:
 - 1. Madness
 - 2. Uncleanness of body, mind, heart, and tongue.
 - 3. Nakedness
 - 4. Self-harm: mutilation and cutting (taring), burning, drowning
 - 5. Pining away (depression) vexing
 - 6. Being Suicidal
 - 7. Crying, weeping and talking loud out of desperation, anger, frustration, or pain of heart and mind.
 - 8. And by proclaiming Christ with the mouth although they are the living epitome of a lost and undone soul.

II. God set forth in the law as a basic underlying element the precepts of clean and unclean.

Leviticus 10:10 And that ye may put difference between holy and unholy, and between unclean and clean;

Leviticus 11:47 To make a difference between the unclean and the clean, and between the beast that may be eaten and the beast that may not be eaten.

Leviticus 20:25-26 Ye shall therefore put difference between clean beasts and unclean, and between unclean fowls and clean: and ye shall not make your souls abominable by beast, or by fowl, or by any manner of living thing that creepeth on the ground, which I have separated from you as unclean. And ye shall be holy unto me: for I the LORD am holy, and have severed you from other people, that ye should be mine.

- A. That is what distinguished between God's people and those who were not.
- B. The priests had a responsibility to God to teach the people the difference between the clean and the unclean.

Ezekiel 22:26 Her priests have violated my law, and have profaned mine holy things: they have put no difference between the holy and profane, neither have they shewed difference between the unclean and the clean, and have hid their eyes from my sabbaths, and I am profaned among them.

Ezekiel 44:23 And they shall teach my people the difference between the holy and profane, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean.

- 1. This difference was to be maintained and anyone who was unclean was to be cut off from his people.
- 2. This is a basic principle of identity for God's people in this world.
- C. When we get to the NT we find the same principle.

Ephesians 5:5 For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.

- D. We understand from the Scriptures that it is the unclean spirit that tries to break down this distinction between what is God's and what is not, and them that are God's and them that are not.

Titus 1:15 Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled.

- E. The tree in the garden that was forbidden while all the other trees were there for their enjoyment and benefit, is the same principle.
 - 1. Man must choose to worship and live for God, and he must choose NOT to partake of that which God forbids.
 - F. It is just NOT all the same, and it never has been, neither will it ever be.
 - 1. There is good and evil, right and wrong, holy and unholy, and there is clean and unclean.
- III. It is the unclean spirit that tries to make all things the same and erase the differences.
- A. All this modern confusion of same-sex relationships, gender fluidity, no races of people, no borders, no police, is all from unclean spirits.
 - B. Unclean spirits work to uproot everything godly and orderly and open the doors for unlimited wickedness.
 - C. The unclean spirit will come to you in your mind because that is the battleground for spiritual warfare; you will hear the voice, the reasoning, the questioning, there.
 - D. His argument will always be that what has been called unclean is really clean and there is really no difference.
 - 1. His goal is to get you to not care about uncleanness.
 - E. The spirit of compromise is an unclean spirit, when it the compromise has to do with moral issues and what the Bible clearly teaches about right and wrong.
 - 1. This is why compromising always starts a slippery slide that ends in apostasy – the unclean spirit has accomplished his mission.
 - F. This is why we see in the NT in the examples of those who had unclean spirits such madness, confusion, hopelessness, and lostness.
 - 1. Their terrible state all began when they failed to recognize the unclean spirit that convinced them to compromise with sin and the world and turn way, or deny God's way and will.
 - 2. They became unclean, which cut them off from God's people – that is the way it always happens.
 - G. No one can fit in with God's true people who can still discern between clean and unclean while they are walking in uncleanness.
 - 1. They feel condemned in their presence.
 - H. So they feel like castaways and from there the progression takes them into the darkness.
 - I. Since they feel they have "blown it," or because of their hostility toward the people of God, they just pull out all the stops and go headlong into sin, immorality, drugs, liquor, and all that the world has to offer to those who can no longer tell the difference between clean and unclean.
 - J. This takes them down the broad road of destruction until they end up like the man in the tombs, or the poor boy who was foaming, pining, tearing himself, trying to drown himself, trying to burn himself to death, and could not hear or speak.
 - K. These are the people you see and hear talking about Jesus being the Son of God but their profession of that fact is out of fear and not out of love because they are living in contempt of Him and his word.
- IV. Beware of the unclean spirit above all others.

- A. An unclean spirit looks for an unclean place to inhabit. (the maniac and then the hogs)
- B. Keep your vessel clean, your home clean, your thoughts clean, your language clean.

Psalm 19:14 Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer.

- C. Keep everything in your life acceptable in the sight of God and guard the gates against uncleanness in all areas.
- D. Buy the truth; read your Bible and get grounded in the truth, and then do not compromise with ungodliness.

John 15:3 Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.

Ephesians 5:25-27 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

- 1. No unclean spirit there...
- E. Do not walk in the counsel of the ungodly, sit in the seat of the scornful, or stand in the way of sinners.
 - 1. Cleanness does not spread cleanness, but uncleanness DOES spread uncleanness.

Haggai 2:12-13 If one bear holy flesh in the skirt of his garment, and with his skirt do touch bread, or pottage, or wine, or oil, or any meat, shall it be holy? And the priests answered and said, No. Then said Haggai, If one that is unclean by a dead body touch any of these, shall it be unclean? And the priests answered and said, It shall be unclean.

- F. Unclean spirits come straight from the mouth of the devil.

Revelation 16:13 And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet.

- G. So this is a must if we are going to fight a good fight in this spiritual war.
 - 1. To know what an unclean spirit is, where it comes from, what it is trying to do, and where it will take us if we do not resist.