

Scripture's primary focus is Thought Transformation

God Is Sovereign

The Supreme Ruler

We must orient our thinking to God's right of authority over our lives

Orient our thinking to **grace** (God has provided everything for us)
Orient our thinking to **doctrine**

Personal senses of our eternal **destiny** the judgment seat of Christ

God's purpose in redeeming mankind

2 Peter 1:3 (NKJV)
3 as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and grace,

The word of God satisfies every possible need, for young and old of all generations!

It is all sufficient

I want to know God's word so I can be directing other believers, showing them **God's methods** for how we are to be handling life

Thus 2:11-14 (NKJV)

11 For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men,
12 teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age,
13 looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,
14 who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works.

It is God who defines reality. He defines who we are, what our present position and mental attitude, and how we spend the blessing of time given to us; which results in perfect peace and unity with God, and fellow believers of like mind.

2 Corinthians 5:20 (NASB95)

20 Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

A run-up to the book of Revelation or eschatological events

Angelic Conflict

Demon Possession

1. Biblical direction around demonic possession:

Jesus casts out the demon possessed:

Matthew 12:22-34 (NASB95)

22 Then a demon-possessed man who was blind and mute was brought to Jesus, and He healed him, so that the mute man spoke and saw.
Because of demon possession the man was blind and could not speak

23 All the crowds were amazed, and were saying, "This man cannot be the Son of David, can he?"

Isaiah 35:4-6 (NASB95)

4 Say to those with anxious heart, "Take courage, fear not, behold, your God will come with vengeance. The recompense of God will come, but He will save you."
5 Then the eyes of the blind will be opened And the ears of the deaf will be unstopped.
6 Then the lame will leap like a deer, And the tongue of the mute will shout for joy. For waters will break forth in the wilderness And streams in the Arabah.

24 But when the Pharisees heard this, they said, "This man casts out demons only by Beelzebul the ruler of the demons."

Mark 5:1-15 (NKJV)

1 Then they came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gadarenes.
2 And when He had come out of the boat, immediately there met Him out of the tombs a **man with an unclean spirit**.
3 who had his dwelling among the tombs, and no one could bind him, not even with chains,
4 because he had often been bound with shackles and chains. And the chains had been pulled apart by him, and the shackles broken in pieces; neither could anyone tame him.
5 And always, night and day, he was in the mountains and in the tombs, crying out and cutting himself with stones.
6 When he saw Jesus from afar, he ran and worshipped Him.
7 And he cried out with a loud voice and said, "What have I to do with You, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I implore You by God that You do not torment me."
8 For He said to him, "**Come out of the man, unclean spirit!**"
9 Then He asked him, "**What is your name?**" And he answered, saying, "My name is Legion; for we are many."
10 Also he begged Him earnestly that he would not send them out of the country.
11 Now a large herd of swine was feeding there near the mountains.
12 So all the demons begged Him, saying, "Send us to the swine, that we may enter them."
13 And at once Jesus gave them permission. Then the unclean spirits went out and entered the swine (there were about two thousand); and the herd ran violently down the steep place into the sea, and drowned in the sea.
14 So those who had the swine fed, and they told it in the city and in the country. And they went out to see what it was that had happened.
15 Then they came to Jesus, and saw the one who had been demon-possessed and had the legion, sitting and clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid.

Demons are cast out through direct divine intervention

Jesus gives the Apostles Authority to Cast out Demons:

Mark 3:13-19 (NASB95)

13 And He went up on the mountain and summoned those whom He Himself wanted, and they came to Him.
14 And He appointed twelve, so that they would be with Him and that He could send them out to preach,
15 and to have authority to cast out the demons.
16 And He appointed the twelve: Simon (to whom He gave the name Peter),
17 and James, the son of Zebedee, and John the brother of James (to whom He gave the name Boanerges, which means, "Sons of Thunder"),
18 and Andrew, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus, and Simon the Zealot,
19 and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed Him.

Matthew 10:5-8 (NKJV)

5 These twelve Jesus sent out and commanded them, saying, "Do not go into the way of the Gentiles, and do not enter a city of the Samaritans.
6 But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.
7 And as you go, preach, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand!'
8 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, **cast out demons**. Freely you have received, freely give.

2 Corinthians 12:12 (NKJV)

12 Truly the signs of an apostle were accomplished among you with all perseverance, in signs and wonders and mighty deeds.

Casting out demons in the church age is associated with the religious unbelievers:

Matthew 7:21-23 (NKJV)

21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.
22 Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, **cast out demons** in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?'
23 And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'

Can a Christian be demon possessed?

For the unbeliever, Demonic expulsion through faith alone in Christ alone: For the believer, demonic possession is not possible.

1 Corinthians 3:16 (NKJV)

16 Do you not know that **you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you**?

1 John 4:4 (NKJV)

4 You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because **He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world**

John 3:6 (NKJV)

6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and **that which is born of the Spirit is spirit**

Colossians 1:27 (NKJV)

27 To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is **Christ in you, the hope of glory**.

At regeneration the human spirit is created in the individual, and he is filled with the Holy Spirit

2 Peter 1:3 (NKJV)

3 as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue,

The silence of Scripture:

Throughout the teachings of the apostles from Romans to Jude there is no mention of the subject

2. How do we know what we know?

The tendency of people is to build their theology on the basis of anecdotes and experience, and not on biblical revelation

Dependence in Scripture:

Merill Ungar authored the book: **Biblical Demonology** published in the 1990s

It would be difficult to find the subject anywhere replete with more fantastic distortion and unbridled extravagance than popular demonology **uncontrolled by the truths of divine revelation**, in this realm popular imagination is run riot and recklessly distorted itself since the dim ages of antiquity. Uncontrolled multitudes throughout the centuries have lived and died in the clutches of the appalling fear and absurd superstition, under the shadow of evil supernaturalism. Excuses is not confined to the gullible masses of the naive and uneducated, but priests and professional men, rabbis and Talmudists have in many instances been the promulgators of strange vagaries and the protagonists of popular perversions.

Independent reason:

Merill Ungar authored the book: **What Demons Can Do to Saints** published in the 70s

Influenced by many letters from Christians who said they knew individuals that were Christians that they had been demon possessed.

Christians can go psychotic due to negative volition (That doesn't mean there demon possessed); just like they can become depressed, hateful, vengeful and on and on

2543 Bepomcu (therapeut) v.b. = Str 2032; TONT 3:126 - 1 LN 25:139 heal, cure; (pass) to be healed, be cured (Mt 4:23; Lk 6:18; Lk 9:2 v.a.)

1227 daimonizomai (daimonizomai) v.b. = Str 1139; TONT 2:19 - LN 12:41 be demon possessed, Mt 4:24; 8:16; 12:22; 15:22

Since demon possession is not a natural phenomenon; it can't be solved by natural human means. Such as: drugs, incantations, rituals or religion

1675 ekballo ekballo v.b. = Str 1544; TONT 1:527 - 1 LN 15:251 throw out, expel (Mt 21:39); 2 LN 15:44 drive out, send out, expel (Mt 23:16; Mk 11:15; Ac 16:37); 3 LN 15:68 send out, send forth, for a purpose (Mt 9:38); 4 LN 15:174 lead out, bring forth from an area (Mt 1:12; 10:4); 5 LN 53:102 **exorcise a demon** (Mt 9:34; Mk 1:34; Mk 16:9; 17 v.f.); 6 LN 13:68 cause to be, make, become, be, to cause a significant change of a state, by a decisive action (Mt 12:29); 7 LN 33:396 ekballo to drive out (ekballo to exorcise, slander 6:8-9:24).

exorizeto

Mark 16:14-18 (NKJV)
14 Later He appeared to the eleven as they sat at the table; and He rebuked their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they did not believe those who had seen Him after He had risen.
15 And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.
16 He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.
17 And these signs will follow those who believe in My name: they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues.
18 They will take up serpents, and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."