DELIVERANCE
Prayer Study #375
First Love Ministries of Perry, Georgia

Handout #27: SPIRITUAL HOUSEKEEPING, FANTASY, AND VAIN IMAGINATIONS

The graven images of their gods shall ye burn with fire; thou shalt not desire the silver or gold that is on them nor take it unto thee, lest thou be snared therein; for it is an abomination to the Lord thy God. Neither shall thou bring an abomination into thine house, lest thou be a cursed thing like it, but thou shall utterly detest it, and thou shalt utterly abhor it, for it is a cursed thing.
Deuteronomy 7:25-26

Spiritual Housekeeping

(taken from *How to Minister Freedom,* Doris Wagner, ed.)

Abstain from every form [appearance] *of evil.* 1st Thessalonians 5:22

1. **Symptoms of Spiritual Pollution in Homes**
   a. Sudden ongoing illness
   b. Continual bad dreams and nightmares
   c. Insomnia
   d. Behavior problems such as continual fighting and misunderstandings
   e. No peace
   f. Unexplained illness, such as chronic headaches or fatigue
   g. Heightened bondages, such as increased mental or physical perversion
   h. Ghosts or demonic apparitions (I do not believe in ghosts, but I do believe that demons sometimes try to manifest as ghosts and demons are real!).
   i. Poltergeist (the movement of physical objects by demons
   j. Foul, unexplainable odors
   k. Atmospheric heaviness, making it hard to breathe

2. **Potential Entry Points**
   a. Objects related to heathen worship, such as Hindu gods, yoga, snakes, dragons, pyramids, crystals, broken crosses, Buddha figurines, gargoyles, tarot cards, worry stones, voodoo dolls

b. Objects related to the occult, such as Ouija boards, Dungeons and Dragons, some video games, horoscopes or astrology books, demonic tattoos, Satanism materials, New Age materials, Wicca materials, etc.
c. Movie videos with immoral behavior or foul language and pornographic books, pictures, or websites
d. Music that demonstrates a demonic or depraved mental imagery, uses filthy words or creates an interest in death or murder
e. Pokémon dolls, goddess statues, demon statues, demonic comic books, rock posters, troll dolls, Smurf dolls, an obsession with turtles (an Egyptian god), owls (witches use these for controlling others), frogs (witches put these at their back doorsteps), and the phoenix bird (Egyptian god that controlled the underworld)
f. Books dealing with cults or the occult
g. Art or jewelry with obvious demonic representations such as yin-yang, broken crosses, upside down crosses, good luck charms, dragons, snakes, etc.

3. Purification process

a. Repent for the sins, bad attitudes, and behaviors of both you and your family members. (1st John 1:5-10 says, *"And besides this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, and to virtue knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, patience; and to patience, godliness; and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love. For if these things be in you and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. But he that lacketh these things is blind and cannot see afar off and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins. Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure for if you do these things, you shall never fall.*
b. Repent on behalf of past owners for any defilement in the land or house.
c. Remove and destroy (do not give away!) items related to the occult, heathen worship, past sin, and anything else the Lord convicts you of. You do not, however, have the right to destroy other people's property.
d. Renounce aloud any demonic contract that you have made willingly or unwillingly and break any unholy covenants with past sin, including ungodly soul ties or ungodly relationships. Break them by the blood of Jesus.
e. Command the demons, in the name of Jesus, to leave you, your family and your home. Ask the Lord to cleanse you, your possessions, and your home.

Fantasy (taken from *The Prophet's Dictionary,* p. 218): *Fantasy,* a word that describes the illusory and the enticing, comes from the word *fancy* that originally meant "hallucinations." Now we define *fantasy* as **a)** the unrestrained imaginative journeys and visions of the mind; b**)** mental excursions that permit the unrestricted roving of the mind; **c)** the process of conjuring or conceiving mainly the unrealistic or improbable; **d)** a psychological response to a need to create for oneself mentally what does not, cannot, or should not be experienced in reality; **e)** Biblically, the word *fantasy* is described as vain imaginations (Genesis 6:5 and 8:2)

Vain Imaginations come from:
Walking in the flesh rather than the Spirit (Romans 8:5-8)
Lying Spirit (2nd Chronicles 18:22)
Spirit of Whoredoms (Hosea 4:12)
Perverse Spirit (Isaiah 19:14)

Vain imaginations can become strongholds, and instead of thinking on things that are honest, just, pure, lovely, and of a good report, we find ourselves fantasizing about worldly, sexual, or irrational things: *Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report, if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things* (Philippians 4:8) At times vain imaginations can even be very logical and strongholds of rationalizing and natural reasoning in the flesh that make sense, if you do not align your thoughts with the Word of God. For example, these stronghold can tell you that it is not a good time to step out in faith or you cannot afford to obey the Lord in something He is asking you to do.

There are also irrational strongholds that primarily have to do with unrealistic fears and worries, such as a fear of dying young, a fear of being in open spaces, a fear of a terminal illness coming on you, an abnormal fear of rejection, sexual fantasies, etc. Paul wrote in 2nd Corinthians 10:5, *"Casting down imaginations and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every though to the obedience of Christ."* Paul says nothing about defeating the devil in this passage but tells us to take very thought captive to the obedience of Christ. How do we do this? By speaking the Word of God continually over these areas of your life. The Word works!

Some scriptures dealing with Imagination

…the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth. Genesis 8:21

They…walked in the counsels and in the imagination of their evil heart and went backward and not forward. Jeremiah 7:24

Jesus said, "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not commit adultery.' But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you, for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell." Matthew 5:27-29

Do not be deceived. God is not mocked. For whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to the flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life. Galatians 6:7-8

…they obeyed not, nor inclined their ear, but walked everyone in the imagination of their evil heart….Jeremiah 11:8

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….2nd Corinthians 10:4-6