We tolerate devils manifesting and wreaking havoc in the world. It is high time for the Body of Christ to manifest the Kingdom of God and to send the devil fleeing in terror. Tell the devil that you are coming, and Heaven is coming with you.
Dawn Hill

Spiritual Warfare and Deliverance
Prayer Study 553 H
Lesson Eight

WHO ARE WE FIGHTING? PART D

PART 4A: The Flesh Nature

We have looked at a few of the different spirits that we fight against. These spirits are real and very active in the world today, and almost all of us have had to deal with one or more oppressing our lives. I personally do not believe, however, that every problem we have is demonic. Certainly when we continue to sin in the same area and continually deny, grieve or quench the Holy Spirit, we, as Christians, can open ourselves up to eventual demonic oppression. There is a state, however, before this oppression, I believe, that is not about demons but about our flesh. You cannot cast out the flesh, and you cannot kill demons. The Lord wants us to reckon our flesh and sin nature dead (*Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord*-Romans 6:11).

Some of the works of the flesh are found in Galatians 5. This passage gives us the way to kill the flesh, and that is by walking in the Spirit and displaying the fruit of the Spirit: *I say then; Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not*

fulfill the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusts against the Spirit and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murder, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit-Galatians 5:16-25.

Perhaps crucifying the flesh is the most difficult task that we as Christian believers are called to do. The Word tells us that **we are to make no provision for the flesh** (Romans 13:12-14: *The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lust)*. **We are not to love the flesh** (1st John 2:15-17: *Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world-the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life-is not of the Father but is of the world.*

And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of the of God abides forever.) **We are not to walk in the flesh** (Romans 8:1: *There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.)* **We are not to live in the flesh** (Romans 8:12-14: *Therefore, brethren, we are debtors not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.*)

So now we are going to look at some aspects of the flesh nature that are generally not demonic spirits, although they can be and will eventually be if we do not deal with these issues in our flesh. And at the very least demonic spirits can bring these sins of the flesh up as accusations against us or tempt us in these areas. At any rate our flesh nature must be deal with if we are going to the heights spiritually to which the Lord is calling us.

Part 4B: Shame

In my own ministry, I have found that shame is one of the greatest hindrances to believers forgiving themselves and accepting themselves as children of the King. I speak here of Christians who feel the Lord cannot forgive them from past failures. Their shame often will not allow them to accept forgiveness from the Father or from others. Shame makes them feel that their failures are final. Of course this is a lie of the enemy, and anyone who studies the Word will see over and over of how the Lord most often uses the broken ones who have failed over and over. He is able to

do this because He is a God of love (*He who does not love does not know God, for God is love-1st John 4:8*), and His word says, "Love covers a multitude of sin" (*And above all things have fervent love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins*-1st Peter 4:8). When you come to Him in surrender and repentance, He cast your sins as far as the east is from the west and remembers them no more (*For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is His mercy toward those who fear Him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us. As a father pities his children, so the LORD pities those who fear Him. For He knows our frame. He remembers that we are dust and He remembers them no more-Psalm 103:11-14).* When you continue to walk in shame, the problem is not God but you, for you have not forgiven yourself, and this unforgiveness, even of yourself, is a big stumbling block to growing in the Lord. (***Judge not, and you shall not be judged. Condemn not, and you shall not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven***-Luke 6:37).

Perhaps the greatest type of someone overcoming shame in the Word of God, is Mephibosheth. Mephibosheth was the son of Jonathan, David's friend, and the grandson of Saul. When he was five years old, his father and grandfather died in the battle on Mount Gilboa against the Philistines. Thus, he, who should have inherited the throne from his father Jonathan, was stripped of this position because of these deaths, and David, anointed by Samuel, became the king. In the rush to protect Mephibosheth from being killed and in the confusion of the day because of the fierce battle, the nurse grabbed Mephisbosheth and ran to

hide and protect him. In her haste she dropped the boy causing him to injure both feet and become lame for the rest of his life. Those in succession to the throne were usually killed by the new king so that there would be no division or attempt to overthrow the new king. Mephibosheth lived in exile until David, remembering the covenant he had made with his best friend Jonathan, called for him. In those days, anyone with any kind of mental or physical infirmity or blemish of any kind was not allowed to eat at the king's table where only the most beautiful and gifted were invited. Nevertheless, David commanded that Mephibosheth be found and be given the high honor of eating at the king's table as one of the king's sons:

And the king said, "Is there not yet any of the house of Saul, that I may show the kindness of God unto him?" And Ziba said unto the king, "Jonathan hath yet a son who is lame on his feet." And the king said unto him, "Where is he?" And Ziba said unto the king, "Behold, he is in the house of Machir, the son of Ammiel, in Lodebar." Then King David sent and fetched him out of the house of Machir, the son of Ammiel, from Lodebar. Now when Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, was come unto David, he fell on his face and did obeisance. And David said, "Mephibosheth." And he answered, "Behold thy servant!" And David said unto him, "Fear not; for I will surely show thee kindness for Jonathan, thy father's sake and will restore thee all the land of Saul, thy father; and thou shalt eat at my table continually." And he bowed himself and said, "What is thy servant, that thou shouldest look upon such a dead dog as I am?" Then the

king called to Ziba, Saul's servant, and said unto him, "I have given unto thy master's son all that pertained to Saul and to all his house. Thou, therefore, and thy sons and thy servants shall till the land for him, and thou shalt bring in the fruits that thy master's son may have food to eat; but Mephibosheth, thy master's son, shall eat always at my table." Now Ziba had fifteen sons and twenty servants. Then said Ziba unto the king, "According to all that my lord, the king, hath commanded his servant, so shall thy servant do." "As for Mephibosheth," said the king, "he shall eat at my table, as one of the king's sons."

Mephibosheth's name means *DESTROYING SHAME.* He represents those who have been delivered from great shame by being invited to the Heavenly King's table to eat. You may have really blown it spiritually and otherwise and be carrying great shame because of your past. The Lord is offering you forgiveness and freedom, but you have to receive it.

Dale and Juanita Ryan define shame in contrast to guilt: *There is an important difference between guilt and shame. Guilt is part of recognizing that I have done something wrong. Guilt is a painful emotion. It can, however, be a helpful emotion because it alerts us to a violation of our values and ideals. Guilt can be the first step in a process that leads to growth and change, to repentance and recovery.*

Shame, on the other hand, is not part of such a healthy process. Shame does not open a person to the possibility of change. Instead, shame is experienced as a flaw so

fundamental that no hope for recovery seems possible. Shame causes people to see themselves as unlovable, unworthy and irreparable. Perhaps the most difficult tenet of the Christian Gospel to believe is that no matter how badly damaged you may seem to yourself, God see you as valuable. No matter how unlovable you may seem to yourself, God loves you. No matter how pessimistic you may be about the possibility of recovering from shame, God is eager to bring healing.

Some Scriptural Characteristics of Shame

1. **Confusion:** *We lie down in shame and our confusion covers us; for we have sinned against the Lord, our God, we and our fathers, from our youth unto this day and have not obeyed the voice of the Lord, our God.* **Jeremiah 3:25**
2. **Lack of the Lord's Glory:** *As they were increased, so they sinned against me: therefore, will I change their glory into shame.* **Hosea 4:7**
3. **Sense of forsakenness, of no longer connecting to the Lord:** *Fear not, for you shall not be ashamed, neither be you confounded; for you shall forget the shame of your youth and shall not remember the reproach of your widowhood any more.* **Isaiah 54:4**
4. **Unproductive for the Lord:** *He that gathereth in summer is a wise son, but he that sleepeth in harvest is a son that causes shame.* **Proverbs 10:5**
5. **Rebellion, refusal to submit to authority:** *Poverty and shame shall be to him that refuseth instruction, but he that regardeth reproof shall be honored.* **Proverbs 13:18**

6. **A Prideful Spirit:** *When pride comes, then comes shame, but with the lowly is wisdom.* **Proverbs 11:2**
7. **Lack of righteousness:** *I counsel you to buy of Me gold tried in the fire, that you may be rich, and white raiment that you may be clothed, and that the shame of your nakedness do not appear, and anoint your eyes with salve that you may see.* **Revelation 3:18**
8. **Pain:** *Turn unto me and have mercy upon me; for I am desolate and afflicted. The troubles of my heart are enlarged. Oh bring thou me out of my distresses. Look upon mine affliction and my pain and forgive all my sins. Consider mine enemies; and they hate me with cruel hatred. Oh, keep my soul and deliver me; let me not be ashamed….* **Psalm 25:16-20**
9. **Feeling of not belonging in certain groups (Woman with the Alabaster Jar):** *And being in Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat eating, there came a woman, having an alabaster box of ointment of spikenard, very precious; and she broke the box, and poured the ointment on his head. And there were some that had indignation within themselves, and said, Why was this waste of the ointment made? For it might have been sold for more than three hundred denarii and have been given to the poor. And they murmured against her.* **Mark 14:3-5**
10. **Feeling of unworthiness (the Prodigal Son):** *I will arise and go to my father and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you and am no more worthy to be called your son; make me as one of your hired servants.* **Luke 15:18-19**

11. **Longing to Die (Jonah):** *But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was very angry. And he prayed unto the Lord and said, I pray thee, O Lord, was not this my saying, when I was yet in my country? Therefore, I fled before unto Tarshish; for I knew that thou art a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger and of great kindness and repentest thee of the evil. Therefore now, O Lord, take I beseech thee my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.* **Jonah 4:1-3**
12. **Rejection and isolation (Woman at the Well):** *Then saith the woman of Samaria unto him, How is it that you, being a Jew, ask drink of me, who am a woman of Samaria? For the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans.* **John 4:9**

How to Overcome Shame

1. **Pray:** *Is any among you afflicted? Let him pray…***James 5:13**
2. **Confess your faults one to another:** *Confess your faults one to another…***James 5:16**
3. **Repent of any wrongdoing:** *Repent, therefore, of this your wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven you, for I perceive that you are in the gall of bitterness and in the bond of iniquity.* **Acts 8:22-23**
4. **Let go of the past:** *Remember not the former things, neither consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall you not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.* **Isaiah 43:18-19**

5. **Speak life over yourself:** *You art snared by the words of your mouth…***Proverbs 6:2** *Death and life are in the power of the tongue…***Proverbs 18:21**
6. **Forgive yourself:** *And when you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against <u>any</u>, that your Father also, who is in heaven, may forgive you your trespasses. But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father, who is in heaven, forgive your trespasses.* **Mark 11:25-26**
7. **Praise Him:** *Violence shall no more be heard in your land, wasting nor destruction with your borders, but you shall call your walls Salvation and your gates Praise.* **Isaiah 60:18**

Mephibosheth had a choice whether to accept the king's offer to dine at his table or not. You have a choice whether to receive His forgiveness and lay your shame on the altar. All of us have fallen short of the glory of God and failed in some way. We can wallow in our sin and shame, or we can accept the sacrifice made for us, through His blood, which says that He continually cleanses us from all unrighteousness. (*But if we [really] are living and walking in the Light, as He [Himself] is the Light, we have [true, unbroken] fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses (removes) us from all sin and guilt [keeps us cleansed from sin in all its forms and manifestations].* 1st John 1:7 AMP

As you are set free by faith from SHAME, I believe the Lord will bring healing to some of you, especially in the

physical and emotional area. A great way to start a "life without shame" is to come to a comprehension of the love of Christ for you. If we could comprehend how much He loves us, we would be free and powerful in the Spirit of our God.

In Ephesians 3: 14-21, Paul gives us four steps in being *filled with all the fullness of God,* and one of the steps is coming to a revelation of how much Jesus loves you: *For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that (1) He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory to be strengthened with might by His Spirit in the inner man; that (2) Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that (3) you being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all saints, what is the breadth and length and depth and height, and to know the love of Christ which passes understanding, (4)that you might be filled with all the fullness of God. Now unto Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.*

Isaiah writes in Isaiah 50:10: *Who is among you who [reverently] fears the Lord, who obeys the voice of His Servant, yet who walks in darkness and deep trouble and has not shining splendor [in his heart]? Let him rely on, trust in, and be confident in the name of the Lord, and let him lean upon and be supported by His God.* The Lord's desire is to set you free from shame so that you can shine with splendor in your heart. Give your shame to Jesus and

learn to rely on, trust in, and be confident in the name of the Lord.

Part 4C: Deception

Although it is very clear that satan has the ability to blind the minds of those who are of this world (*But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them*-2nd Corinthians 4:3-4), I personally believe that most deception, but not all, is a product of the flesh instead of a demon. Jesus warned about deception at the end of the age, and we should be very cautious. Unfortunately, the very nature of deception is those who are deceived don't know they are.

This is what the great Bible scholar and deliverance minister Derek Prince said concerning deception: *"Deception-not sickness, poverty, or persecution-is the greatest single danger in the end of the age. Anyone who denies his vulnerability to deception is already deceived, for Jesus has foretold it and He does not err."*

I believe that the two greatest problems of the Church at the End of the Age well be: DECEPTION and FEAR. We have already looked at the Spirit of Fear so we will concentrate on deception during this particular lesson.

1. **<u>Deception: The enemy's attempt to pull the wool over the eyes of the Church:</u>**
   a. **By flattering words**-Romans 16:17-18: *Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions*

and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them. For those who are such do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly, and by smooth words and flattering speech deceive the hearts of the simple.

b. **By false reports**-2nd Thessalonians 2:1-12: *Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come. Let no one deceive you by any means; for the Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God. Do you remember that when I was still with you I told you these things? And now you know what is restraining, that he may be revealed in his own time. For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way. And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming. The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that*

they should believe the lie, that they may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

c. **By false reasoning**-Colossians 2:4: *For this I say lest anyone should deceive you with persuasive words.*

d. **By evil spirits**-1st Timothy 4:1: *Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons….*

e. **By false prophets**-Matthew 24:24 NCV: ***False christs and false prophets will come and perform great wonders and miracles. They will try to fool even the people God has chosen, if that is possible. Now I have warned you about this before it happens.***

f. **By false signs and wonders**- 2nd Thessalonians 2:9: *The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs and lying wonders.* Matthew 24:24: ***For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders, to deceive, if possible, even the elect.***

2. <u>The Effects of Deception</u>

a. **Division**-Romans 16:18-19: *Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned and avoid them. For those who are such do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly, and by smooth words and flattering speech deceive the hearts of the simple.*

b. **False Doctrine-**1st Timothy 4:1: *Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons…*
c. **Putting people, who have a false anointing and satanic signs and lying wonders, in positions of leadership-**2nd Thessalonians 2:9-*The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs and lying wonders…* 1st John 2:18-20: *Little children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come by which we know that it is the last hour. They went out from us, but they were not of us; but they went out that they might be made manifest, that none of them were of us. But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you know all things.*
d. **An inability to intelligently minister to and pray for the afflicted, mentally confused, oppressed and troubled-both saint and sinner- and an inability to expose the devil's tactics-**Acts 16:16-18: *Now it happened, as we went to prayer, that a certain slave girl possessed with a spirit of divination met us, who brought her masters much profit by fortune telling. This girl followed Paul and us, and cried out, saying, "These men are the servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us the way of salvation." And this she did for many days. But Paul, greatly annoyed, turned and said to*

the spirit, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And he came out that very hour.

Paul was plagued at Philippi for days with this woman following them and announcing to all around that they were servants of the Most High God who were proclaiming the way of salvation. Instead of paying her to be their public relations expert as some might today, they cast the spirit of divination out of her, which is really the spirit of python or witchcraft. We surely don't need repulsive religious spirits to advertise for us. A much better advertisement are those rejoicing ones who are aglow with a new love for the Deliverer.

3. The Antidote for Deception

a. **Obeying the Truth of the Word of God-** Galatians 3:1: *O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you that you should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been openly set forth, crucified among you?*

b. **The Gift of Discernment-**1st Corinthians 12:10: *...to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues.* To truly operate in this gift whose operation is simply finding the mind of Christ, we must first find the heart of Christ. The heart and love of Jesus is summed up in His own words: ***"I did not come to judge the world, but to save the world"*** (John 12:47).

Some times this gift, which is so needed today, can produce sorrow in the one walking in the gift because the information in our spirit man is painful, as people operating in this gift pick-up not only the good and right and holy but also discern the fake and phony and oppression and depression and sorrow and defeat in people's lives.

c. **The Witness of the Spirit**-Romans 8:16: *The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God…* 1st John 5:9: *If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater; for this is the witness of God which He has testified of His Son.*
Hebrews 10:15a: *But the Holy Spirit also witnesses to us….*

d. **The Multitude of Counselors**-Proverbs 11:14: *Where there is no counsel, the people fall; but in the multitude of counselors there is safety.*

e. **Proper Spiritual Authority**-Hebrews 13:17 KJV: *Obey them that have rule (guide) over you, and submit yourselves; for they watch for your souls, as them that must give account, that they may do it with joy and not with grief; for that is unprofitable for you.* Hebrews 13:17 Message: *Be responsive to your pastoral leaders. Listen to their counsel. They are alert to the condition of your lives and work under the strict supervision of God. Contribute to the joy of their leadership, not its drudgery. Why would you want to make things harder for them?*

f. **Walking in the Dunamis Power of God-**1st Corinthians 2:4-8: *And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power[dunamis], that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power[dunamis] of God. However we speak wisdom among those who are mature, yet not the wisdom of this age, nor of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which God ordained before the ages for our glory, which none of the rulers of this age knew; for had they known, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.*

g. **Asking the Right Questions:**

1. **Is what is happening in the Word of God?** Revelation 22:17-19: *And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely. For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.*

2. **Does the message bring glory to Christ?** Psalm 24:7-8: *Lift up your heads, O you gates! And be lifted up, you everlasting doors! And the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, He is the King of glory. Selah.*
3. **Are Jesus and the Cross the center or are experiences and sensational manifestations and phenomena the center?** 1st Corinthians 1:18: *For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.*
4. **Is the prophetic voice humble or drawing attention to self?** 1st Peter 5:2-6: *Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock; and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away. Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another and be clothed with humility, for "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble." Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time…*

5. **Are angels being glorified?** Colossians 2:18 *Let no one cheat you of your reward, taking delight in false humility and worship of angels, intruding into those things which he has not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind.*
6. **Is there too much advertising of merchandise?** Matthew 21:13: *And He said to them,* ***"It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer, but you have made it a den of thieves.'"***
7. **Do the speakers try to help the Holy Spirit and push you over?** Psalm 119:128: *Therefore all Your precepts concerning all things I consider to be right; I hate every false way.*
8. **Are you coerced or made to feel guilty about giving?** 2nd Corinthians 9:7: *So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.*
9. **Do they pray?** 1st Thessalonians 5:17*: Pray without ceasing.*
10. **Do the speakers spend a good bit of time talking about their accomplishments?** Isaiah 64:6-7: *But we are all like an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are like filthy rages; we all fade as a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away, and there is no one who calls on Your name, who stirs himself up to take hold*

of You; for You have hidden Your face from us and have consumed us because of our iniquities.

11. **Is there talk about sin and repentance?** Luke 15:7: ***"I say to you that likewise there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance.***
12. **Is the music trance-inducing music?** 1st Corinthians 14:8: *For if the trumpet makes an uncertain sound, who will prepare for battle?*
13. **Do you feel uncomfortable?** Isaiah 32:17: *The work of righteousness will be peace, and the effect of righteousness, quietness and assurance forever. My people will dwell in a peaceful habitation, in secure dwellings, and in quiet resting places…* Isaiah 40:1: "*Comfort, yes, comfort My people!" says your God.*
14. **Did the speaker let the supernatural happen or did he try to make it happen?** 2nd Thessalonians 2:9-12: *The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of satan, with all power, sign,s and lying wonders, and will all unrighteousness deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this reason God will send them strong delusion,*

that they should believe the lie, that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness. Matthew 24:24: ***For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.***

15. **Is the speaker under spiritual authority?** Hebrews 13:17: *Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you.*
16. **Do your spiritual authorities witness to the movement?** Proverbs 11:14: *Where there is no counsel, the people fall; but in the multitude of counselors there is safety.* Proverbs 29:2a: *When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice…* 1st Peter 5:5: *Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility….*
17. **Does the fruit remain?** John 15:16: ***You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you.***

"Don't depend on an experience to keep you. It is not the blessing that keeps you; it is a person, the Lord Himself. You must abide in Christ. God never meant to give us any blessing that would fix us up so we could get along without Him. We must recognize our constant need of the Lord and depend continually on Jesus."

E.N. Bell

(Note: We do not need the gift of discerning of spirit to discern a false prophet, for Jesus said in Matthew 7:15-20: ***Beware of false prophets…You shall know them by their fruits***.)

Part 4D: Rejection

Again, rejection is one of those things that could be a demon or could be something in our flesh nature. We know it is not always demonic because our Lord suffered rejection: *Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? For He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant and as a root out of dry ground. He has no form or comeliness; and when we see Him there is no beauty that we should desire Him. He is* ***despised and rejected*** *by men, a Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him. He was despised, and we did not esteem Him*- Isaiah 53:1-3.

"At the Master's workbench, where He forms His servants into the image of Christ, there are many tools at His disposal for fashioning character development. There is one tool which He uses in a singularly powerful way,

however, to accelerate the maturity of His chosen vessels, and yes, that tool is called *rejection.* When God destines a saint for extraordinary influence in the body of Christ, He prepares him through the rejection of people. If that saint is to become a compassionate servant-leader, he will first need to drink deeply of the lacerating sting of rejection. This will tenderize him to the reality of rejection and help sensitize him to how easily rejection can be inflicted upon others. Because of his sensitivity in this area, the servant-leader will handle the flock of God with exceptional care and tenderness. It is to these sensitized shepherds that God can entrust great influence."

Bob Sorge in *Dealing with Rejection and Praise of Men*

You are not alone, if you suffer from rejection.

1. Jesus: *He is despised and rejected by men, a Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And yet we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him. Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God and afflicted.* Isaiah 53:3-4 KJV *He was looked down on and passed over, a man who suffered, who knew pain firsthand. One look at Him and people turned away. We looked down on Him, thought He was scum. But the fact is, it was our pains He carried-our disfigurements, all the things wrong with us. We thought He brought it on Himself, that God was punishing Him for His own failures. But it was our sins that did that to Him, that ripped and tore and crushed Him*-our *sins!* Isaiah 53:3-5 The Message

2. Moses: Moses was taken from his own Jewish family to be raised as an Egyptian. The Jews did not trust him and

denounced him when he murdered an Egyptian who was fighting an Israeli. He then had to run away from Pharaoh's house and the Egyptians and spend his life from age 40 to 80 on the backside of a desert. Later He married an Ethiopian and was denounced by his own brother and sister. They later repented when the Lord struck Moses' sister with leprosy because of His anger at their criticism of Moses but mercifully healed her when she repented.

3. David: David's father called all of his sons, except David, to the meeting with the Prophet Samuel when Samuel said he had come to anoint a new king. When David was sent by his father to check on his brothers in the battle between the Philistines and Goliath, his brothers put him down and criticized him for coming. David's father-in-law King Saul tried to kill him. David's wife despised him when he brought the ark back and danced before the Lord. Two of David's sons, Absalom and Adonijah, whom he loved deeply, tried to overthrow him and kill him. And his own troops threatened to kill him when the Amalekites had kidnapped all of the Israeli women and children. (David inquired of the Lord who told David to pursue the Amalekites. He and 600 men did, and he had a great victory recovering all that the Amalekites had taken.)

4. Jeremiah: Jeremiah prophesied courageously and faithfully what God told him, and, as a result, everyone hated him. He said of this experience: *Woe is me, my mother, that you have borne me, a man of strife and a man of contention to the whole earth! I have neither lent for interest, nor have men lent to me for interest. Every one of them curses me.* Jeremiah 15:10

5. Job: Job was rejected by his family, friends, and acquaintances, all of which falsely believed he was also rejected by God.

6. Practically every person used in the Bible, from Joseph who was sold by his own brothers into slavery to the Apostle John who was exiled to the Isle of Patmos, suffered great rejection. Almost everyone we see in the Body of Christ today has gone through at least some measure of rejection.

People with a Spirit of Rejection

1. Generally they are quick to reject others because they don't want to go through more pain of rejection.
2. They don't feel loved and accepted by others.
3. They have an inability to receive or communicate love.
4. They are out of balance in many areas of their lives. Some, for example, give in too easily to others and are relegated to the position of "door mat." Others will not back down or compromise and stubbornly hold on too strongly.
5. Usually they have many of the following characteristics deep in their souls: Loneliness, self-pity, misery, depression, despair, hopelessness, suicidal thoughts and death wishes, anger, mistrust, bitterness, guilt, fear, defensiveness, hard heartedness, disrespectfulness, competitiveness, and jealousy.
6. They are quick to over-analyze and wrongly perceive the actions of others.

7. They engage in escapism (ex. day dreaming, addictions, workaholic behaviors) and in fantasy (material, sexual, power positions, etc.).
8. Usually people with a rejection spirit are judgmental and critical.
9. They often operate in perfectionism and blame others when they do not live up to their own ideals.
10. They have a poverty image because they perceive that they really are worthy nothing.

Causes of Rejection

1. Being unwanted at birth
2. Little physical affection and touch from a person
3. Divorce of parents
4. Having a sibling who is the favored child
5. Betrayal in a trusted relationship
6. Shame
7. Public humiliation
8. Child abuse
9. Attempted abortion
10. Being the wrong sex that the parent wanted
11. Physical or mental defects or learning disabilities
12. Adoption
13. Abandonment
14. Death of a parent
15. Abuse-physical, mental, sexual, emotional, etc.
16. Mental illness of parent
17. Victim of circumstances (ex. Having to stay in the hospital when born and thus being separated from mother)

18. Turmoil in the home (Children usually assume the problem is their fault, even though it may have nothing whatsoever to do with them.)
19. Peer rejection
20. Bloodline curses

How to overcome rejection

1. **Go to the secret place of the Most High:** *He who dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in Him will I trust. Surely He will deliver thee from the snare of the fowler and from the noisome pestilence.* Psalm 91:1-3
2. **Praise Him!**: Some deliverance ministers classify the Spirit of Rejection as a manifestation (along with mourning, sorrow, grief, hopelessness, loneliness, discouragement, self-pity, gluttony, and gloominess) of the Spirit of Heaviness. If that is true, the "medicine" for rejection is praise-*To appoint unto those who mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness, that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that He might be glorified.* Isaiah 61:3
3. **Forgive:** *For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you* (Matthew 6:14). *And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted,*

forgiving one another, even as God, for Christ's sake, hath forgiven you. Ephesians 4:32

4. **Be led by the Spirit of God:** *For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear, but ye have received the spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba Father. The Spirit Himself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs-heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ-if so be that we suffer with Him, that we may be also glorified together. For I reckon that the suffering of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory, which shall be revealed in us.* Romans 8:14-18
5. **Accept the power of His love:** *What shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword?....Nay, in all things we are more than conquerors through Him that loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death nor life nor angels nor principalities nor powers nor things present nor things to come nor heights nor depth nor any other creation shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus, our Lord.* Romans 8:35-39

MISCELLANEOUS TOPICS

A. IN UTERO

Spirit-baptized people have long recognized what medical science is proving today, i.e. that babies from the time of conception are spirit beings who can pick-up things going on outside the womb. It is very important for a husband

and wife and other family members and spirit-filled friends to pray over the child frequently from the time of conception to birth.

John and Paula Sandford with Elijah House Ministries have documented some possible characteristics of children born with *in utereo wounds.* The name of their book is *Healing the Wounded Spirit.*

The following is not true in all cases, but the characteristics are frequently found in children born in these different situations. Because of God's grace and people's prayers or for unknown reasons, some children are born in these circumstances but don't show the negative consequences.

1. **A child is not wanted.** This child often shows the following characteristics: striving, performance oriented, overwhelming desire to please people, rejection, anger, wishing death, frequent illnesses, refusing affection, problems with bonding to parents.
2. **A child is conceived out of wedlock.** This child often has a deep sense of shame and feels that he does not belong.
3. **The child's parents face a bad time financially.** The child grows up to feel he is a burden.
4. **The child's parents fight all the time.** The child is nervous, uptight, fearful or full of guilt.
5. **The child is a breech delivery.** The child has a higher risk of having learning problems.
6. **The delivery is unusually painful.** The child is angry, has ulcers or is depressed.

7. **The cord is wrapped around the neck.** The child has throat-related problems, sometimes anti-social behavior and depression.
8. **Father dies or leaves.** The child feels guilt, blames self, is angry, and often has depression or a death wish.
9. **Mother loses a loved one during the pregnancy.** The child has a deep sadness, has a fear of death, and is lonely.
10. **Father's sexual approaches to mother are insensitive or violent, or father and mother have more than one sexual partner.** The child has an unhealthy attitude towards sex.

Scripture seems to support this belief in *in utero wounds* but also gives us hope that healing can come to those born with these wounds.

Yet Thou art He who didst bring me forth from the womb. Thou didst make me trust when upon my mother's breast. Upon Thee I was cast from birth. Thou hast been my God from my mother's womb. Psalm 22:9

A joyful heart is good medicine, but a broken spirit dries up the bones. Proverbs 20:27

Thou hast been the helper of the orphan. Psalm 10:14

For my father and my mother have forsaken me, but the LORD will take me up. Psalm 27:10

The wicked are estranged from the womb. Those who speak lies go astray from birth. Psalm 58:3

Behold, I was shaped in iniquity and in sin did my mother conceive me. Psalm 51:5

For thou hast possessed my inward parts; thou has covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise thee for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Marvelous are thy works and that my soul knoweth right well. Psalm 139:13-14

B. THE EYE GATE

Generally speaking the eyes are the windows of the soul. Often we can see evil in people's eyes or can see Jesus. This eye gate is very important in deliverance ministry. A person's eyes can tell you a lot about what is going on. **Isaiah 33:17a:** *Thine eye shall see the king in his beauty….* **Matthew 13:15-16:** *For this people's heart is become gross and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed, lest at any time they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears and should understand with their heart and should be converted, and I should heal them. But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear.* **Matthew 6:22** (repeated in Luke 11:34): ***The lamp of the body is the eye. If, therefore, your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light.*** **Proverbs 20:12:** *The hearing ear and the seeing eye, The LORD has made them both.* 1st John 2:16: *For all that is in the world-the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life-is not of the Father but is of the world.*

C. SOULISH RELIGION

A soul not properly aligned **under** control of the spirit does not prosper, and soulish religion is often full of arrogance, haughtiness, opinions, pride, boastings, dominance, pushiness, unbelief, disobedience, self-will, lack of commitment, unfaithfulness, no punctuality, no reliability or dependability. It is telling God where you are going and what you are going to do, and asking Him to bless it, instead of surrendering your life to God and asking Him what He wants done. We must allow the Spirit of the Lord to deal with our soul nature so that we can come out as someone who will glorify Christ and release the Spirit of God to people rather than manipulating and influencing with our personalities, popularity or good looks, which appeal to soulish thinking. The soul is the seat of most of the problems we have in conforming to the image of Jesus. Since it is also the seat of personality, we should be conforming our personalities to the character of Jesus, the pattern son. It is not, of course, that God wants our personalities dead. He wants us to reckon ourselves as dead, meaning no longer independent. When you are born again, you lose the right to be your own God, and your spirit should be your authority over your soul.

(Much of this information comes from an excellent but rare book *The Merimos* by Randy Shankle. Merimos is the Greek term for dividing asunder as in Hebrews 4:12-13)

D. SALVATION

1. Salvation for the spirit is instantaneous when you are born again.
2. Salvation for the soul comes progressively as you read and receive the Word of God.
3. Salvation for the body comes in the future when we receive a glorified body.

E. THREE AREAS and THREE ANTIDOTES

THREE TEMPTATIONS	THREE ANTIDOTES	THREE AREAS
1. Lust of the Flesh	Word of God	Body
2. Lust of the Eyes	Worship	Soul
3. Pride of Life	Faith	Spirit

F. THE KUNDALINI SPIRIT

Jonas Clark, a Florida based minister who offers prophetic training and apostolic equipping in his Remnant Company gatherings and who is quite prolific on the internet, made this statement recently: "*A dangerous spirit is entering Christian churches in North America. That spirit is prophetic, offers visions, dreams, and feelings of peace. It even looks like the Holy Ghost and only the most discerning are seeing it.*"

Clark goes on to describe a service he visited: *"The minister was preaching, praying, and prophesying. It looked like the Holy Spirit was moving but something was wrong. There was a clash in my spirit and I just couldn't enter the service. My spirit was not in agreement. I even*

felt like my spirit was warring against something unseen….then suddenly I saw it. The Holy Spirit opened my eyes, and I saw another spirit on this preacher. It was one of the highest occult spirits I have ever seen. It was a serpent looking reptile curled around this man's spine and laying across his shoulders. It was really difficult to see because it camouflaged itself becoming transparent at times. Later I asked the intercessors with me if they had a witness to what we saw and heard. Like me they confirmed that the preaching was good but something was wrong. They just didn't know what it was. I told them what the Lord showed me. This person, dear reader, is a popular Christian speaker, writer, and television guest in America. I was very grieved in my spirit after this experience. This man was not flowing in the Holy Ghost but another spirit. I believe the name of this counterfeit Holy Ghost is Kundalini. Kundalini is a New Age serpent spirit.

Clark tells us that this Kundalini spirit gained access in America from India through New Age teachings and Yoga. Some of the physical effects of a Kundalini spirit on people are the following:

1. Involuntary jerks, tremors, shaking, itching, tingling, and crawling sensations, especially in the arms and legs.
2. Energy rushes or feelings of electricity circulating the body.
3. Intense heat (sweating) or cold
4. Rapid breathing or hyperventilation
5. Visions or sounds at times associated with mystic visions and false prophecy

6. Depression
7. Pressure inside the skull and headache
8. Feelings of universal love and universal connectedness

Another one who has written extensively on the Kundalini spirit and has noted the presence of this spirit in recent Northern American revivals is Andrew Strom. Strom seems to me to be very balanced and bold in standing for truth and the Word of God. He is from New Zealand and has a ministry called *Revival School* and *John the Baptist TV*. Because this spirit has become so common in the Prophetic movement, Strom has withdrawn from this movement. He cites the following errors in the movement:
The giving and receiving of "ear tickling" words.
The giving and receiving of money in expectation of prophecy.
False words and false teachings.
The lack of a true Repentance message.
The spiritual "blindness" that allows familiar spirits and spirits of divination to flourish.
The failure of this movement to judge itself, meaning that God must judge it.
The idolizing of well-known prophets-placing them on a pedestal.

Spirits, such as the demonic Kundalini spirit, are all too common today. However, we must be careful to try the spirits to see if they are of God. Not every unusual manifestation in a "Christian" service is the Kundalini spirit, but many times that is what is operating. It is my

personal conviction that, if something is happening in a "Christian" service that has no precedence in the Word, as far as you can tell, then you need to be extremely cautious. This spirit is very strong in yoga and other Eastern religious practices and is NOT of God.