



## Jesus Is Stronger than Demons

(Luke 11:14-28)

### Introduction

1. [Series] Resonate: Tune into Jesus' frequency to amplify the gospel in your life & church, and to impact the culture.
2. Elements of Creation:
  - a. The physical/material & spiritual/immaterial (cf. Eph 6:12)
  - b. People are composed of both, with a body & soul (cf. Gen 2:7)
  - c. Because of sin & not being filled with the Spirit of God, that vacancy sometimes gets filled by demons.
3. Demons/Unclean spirits: Spirit beings; fallen angels (not ghosts of dead people).
  - a. Created to serve & worship God, but they rebel & are condemned for joining Satan (a powerful angel).
  - b. They are powerful, clever & a multitude (cf. Rev 12:4 & 9).
  - c. Their goal: To deceive & destroy people, whom God loves.
  - d. "Servants of Christ can no more avoid demons than a gardener can avoid weeds." [Clinton Arnold]

### Jesus has authority over demons [Luke 11:14-16]

1. [14] Some suffering is entirely physical in cause/solution; some is spiritual attack causing physical complications.
  - a. Jesus (Son of God) & Dr. Luke (a physician) diagnose this mute man as having a demon.
  - b. Jesus has unparalleled authority to command the demon away, & it must obey.
  - c. The witnessing crowd faces a question: What do they think of this man, Jesus?
2. [15-16] Some come forward and reject Jesus.
  - a. They know He has spiritual authority, but don't know if He's good or evil.
  - b. [16] "Sign from Heaven": Some demand more evidence, even though Jesus has performed many miracles.
  - c. [15] "By Beelzebul": Some accuse Him of casting out demons by satanic power.
    - i. Beelzebul: "Master of the house"; prince of demons; Satan or his lieutenant. In the Old Testament, a Canaanite deity named Baal-zebul ("lord of the flies").
    - ii. Religions worshipping other gods sometimes worship demons masquerading as gods.
3. Application: Don't be afraid; Jesus is more powerful than demons.
  - a. That is why we love, worship & serve Jesus, & walk soberly, humbly & repentantly with Him.

### Jesus has power through the Holy Spirit [Luke 11:17-20]

1. [17-19] It doesn't make sense for a servant of Satan to cast out another servant of Satan.
2. [20] Where is Jesus' power from?
  - a. "Finger of God": the work & power of God; the Holy Spirit (cf. Matt 12:28).
  - b. We are also given the Holy Spirit (cf. Luke 11:13) as adopted children of God.
  - c. Application: In Christ, when filled by the Holy Spirit, we can command Satan & demons to leave us.
3. The Spirit's power to cast out demons is evidence of the Kingdom of God brought to earth through King Jesus.

## **Invite Jesus to secure your “house” [Luke 11:21-26]**

1. [21-23] There are 2 kings, 2 kingdoms, & ultimately 2 armies
  - a. [21-22] Satan & his demons are stronger & more powerful than you.
    - i. We need someone to defend us who's bigger, stronger & tougher.
    - ii. Jesus is the strong man & victorious King bringing His Kingdom.
    - iii. He went to the cross, & there won the victory (cf. Col 2:13-15).
  - b. [23] Ultimately, we are either in Jesus' army or Satan's
    - i. We are born on the side of sin, folly, rebellion & death; we need to be born again onto the side of victory, Christ, forgiveness & life.
  - c. Application: Which side are you on? Do you belong to Jesus or not?
2. Your life/body is like a house.
  - a. We open doors & windows through unrepented, habitual sin & false spirituality.
  - b. Christians: You cannot be mastered by demons because the Holy Spirit resides in you (Eph 1:13-14; 1 John 4:4). But through sin, rebellion & foolishness, we can quench God's Spirit (1 Thess 5:19-22).
  - c. Non-Christians: Even if you're a “good person” whose life isn't ruined, your house belongs to Satan, not God.
    - i. As long as you're not on God's team, Satan won't disrupt your life... at first.
    - ii. Then Satan seduces with lies, destructive sin, torment, leading to devastation/death (cf. John 8:44).
3. [24-25] Sometimes we recognize something dark/destructive in our lives, & are able to kick it out at first.
  - a. We try self-help, “self-esteem” (i.e., pride), morality/spirituality/religion, doing better, trying harder, having more discipline, being more serious or devout.
  - b. But we don't invite Jesus to take residence in our life; we don't invite the Holy Spirit to move in.
  - c. [26] We make a change, things get better, then they get worse.
    - i. We can acknowledge the problem & clean our house, but if the Holy Spirit doesn't move in to defend, the enemy returns with reinforcements to overpower us.
    - ii. Some just want to get rid of an unclean thing in their life, but do not want to live for Jesus or be filled by His Spirit.
4. Application: We need to invite Jesus to secure your “house.” Prayer:
  - a. Start with repentance from sin.
  - b. Ask God to close all the doors & windows you've opened.
  - c. By the authority of Jesus & power of His Spirit, command the enemy & their work to depart.
  - d. Invite the Holy Spirit to continue dwelling in you, cleaning you, conforming you to Christ, & protecting.
  - e. What windows/doors do I leave open? What have I tried to clean up, but not invited the Holy Spirit to replace?

## **Fight back with the Word [Luke 11:27-28]**

1. Jesus turns the situation into a teaching moment: There's a way to be more blessed than by being His mom:
  - a. “Hear the Word”: It is your weapon to fight the enemy's lies, temptations & accusations (Heb 4:12; Eph 6:17).
  - b. “Keep it”: Use the Word for battle by obeying it (cf. Luke 4:1-13; Jas 1:22).
  - c. Satan & demons hear the Word; the difference between a worshiper & demon is obedience.
  - d. Application: How are you doing in listening to the Word & acting upon it in faith?

## **Conclusion**

1. Application: Where is there evidence of the enemy's work in your life?
  - a. In Luke, not everything is blamed on demons, but some is a result of their work.
  - b. Deception, distraction, division, destruction in your life.
2. Application: Do you command the enemy to leave, repent of sin & invite the Holy Spirit?
  - a. Test: Do you really want to get rid of all your sin? Or keep your favorite, secret, most pleasurable one?
3. Jesus dies in our place, for our sin, as our Savior, & rises in triumphant victory to set captives free.
  - a. Who is master of your house?