

Divine Deliverance

Jesus and his companions went to the town of Capernaum. When the Sabbath day came, he went into the synagogue and began to teach. The people were amazed at his teaching, for he taught with real authority — quite unlike the teachers of religious law. Suddenly, a man in the synagogue who was possessed by an evil spirit cried out, "Why are you interfering with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!" But Jesus reprimanded him. "Be quiet! Come out of the man," He ordered. At that, the evil spirit screamed, threw the man into a convulsion, and then came out of him. Amazement gripped the audience, and they began to discuss what had happened. "What sort of new teaching is this?" they asked excitedly. "It has such authority! Even evil spirits obey his orders!" The news about Jesus spread quickly throughout the entire region of Galilee.

Mark 1:21-28 (NLT)

Our Spiritual Battle

For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.

Ephesians 6:12 (NLT)

We have an enemy, an unseen force at work to destroy our lives.

The thief comes to steal, kill and destroy... John 10:10 (NIV)

1. Receive Christ as your Savior.

For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? 1 John 5:4-5 (ESV)

2. Recognize that Satan and demons exist, and we are at war.

Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour. 1 Peter 5:8 (NLT)

3. Resist Satan.

Submit yourself, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. James 4:7 (NIV)

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Going deeper on your own. This week we want to encourage you to find a scripture that you can commit to memory which will help you stand firm against the stronghold that you have identified today. Use that scripture to pray and ask God to give you the strength daily to be victorious and walk in freedom. If you would still like to go deeper, study Ephesians 6:10-20 and ask God to equip you with the armor of God to stand firm against the enemy and his attacks.