

## Luke 4:31-44 Casting out unclean spirits

Casting out unclean spirits was not a common practice in Israel before Yeshua's Ministry nor is it a common practice today. One of the first miracles of Messiah's Ministry was demonstrated by casting out an unclean spirit from a man in a Capernaum synagogue.

Unclean spirits are called by several names in the Old and New Testament Writings, i.e., devils, demons, evil spirits, etc. Although unclean spirits are not mentioned by that name in the Old Testament, they existed in the land and nations that inhabited the future land of Israel and surrounding nations.

YeHoVaH gave specific Instructions for His people concerning unclean things, unclean spirits, and what to do to avoid them.

In this Teaching, we will examine the subject of unclean spirits, how to detect or recognize unclean spirits, and what to do to cast out unclean spirits according to the Instructions of the Messiah.

Lk 4:31 And came down to Capernaum, a city of Galilee, and taught them on the sabbath days.

Yeshua taught them on the Sabbath DAYS.

Lk 4:32 And they were **astonished** at his doctrine: for his word was with power.

Astonished – **1605 ἐκπλήσσω** ekplesso {ek-place'-so} **Meaning:** 1) to strike out, expel by a blow, drive out or away 2) to cast off by a blow, to drive out 2a) commonly, to strike one out of self-possession, to strike with panic, shock, astonish 3) to be struck with amazement, astonished, amazed **Usage:** AV - be astonished 10, be amazed 3; 13

Power – **1849 ἐξουσία** exousia {ex-oo-see'-ah}

**Meaning:** 1) power of choice, liberty of doing as one pleases 1a) leave or permission 2) physical and mental power 2a) the ability or strength with which one is endued, which he either possesses or exercises 3) the power of authority (influence) and of right (privilege) **Usage:** AV - power 69, authority 29, right 2, liberty 1, jurisdiction 1, strength 1; 103

Why were they astonished or amazed at what Yeshua was teaching? They were hearing things being taught that they had not heard, and His words produced power to correct their thinking.

The spirits recognized that Yeshua's teaching was not the traditional teachings that were taught on the Sabbath days.

Yeshua, the Word made flesh taught the Word of YeHoVaH, NOT the traditions of men, nor the handed down traditions of the elders that were being taught in His day.

Lk 4:33 And in the synagogue there was a man, which had a spirit of an unclean devil, and cried out with a loud voice,

Spirit – **4151 πνεῦμα** pneuma {pnyoo'-mah}

**Meaning:** 1) a movement of air (a gentle blast 1a) of the wind, hence the wind itself 1b) breath of nostrils or mouth 2) the spirit, i.e. the vital principal by which the body is animated 2a) the rational spirit, the power by which the human being feels, thinks, decides 2b) the soul 3) a spirit

**Usage:** AV - Spirit 111, Holy Ghost 89, Spirit (of God) 13, Spirit (of the Lord) 5, (My) Spirit 3, Spirit (of truth) 3, Spirit (of Messiah) 2, human (spirit) 49, (evil) spirit 47, spirit (general) 26, spirit 8, (Yeshua' own) spirit 6, (Yeshua' own) ghost 2, misc 21; 385

Unclean – **169 ἀκάθαρτος** akathartos {ak-ath'-ar-tos}

**Meaning:** 1) not cleansed, unclean 1a) in a ceremonial sense: that which must be abstained from according to the levitical law 1b) in a moral sense: unclean in thought and life

**Usage:** AV - unclean 28, foul 2; 30

Devil – **1140 δαιμόνιον** daimonion {dahee-mon'-ee-on}

**Meaning:** 1) the divine power, deity, divinity 2) **a spirit, a being inferior to God**, superior to men 3) **evil spirits or the messengers and ministers of the devil**

**Usage:** AV - devil 59, god 1; 60

Lk 4:34 Saying, Let *us* alone; what have **we** to do with thee, *thou* Yeshua of Nazareth? **art thou come to destroy us?** **I** know thee who thou art; **the Holy One of God**.

Although there were more than one spirit inhabiting the man in the synagogue, they spoke in a singular voice. The spirits or devils were afraid of Yeshua and recognized His authority and power.

Lk 4:35 And Yeshua **rebuked** him, saying, Hold thy peace, and come out of him. And when the **devil** had thrown him in the midst, he came out of him, and hurt him not.

Rebuked – **2008 ἐπιτιμάω** epitimao {ep-ee-tee-mah'-o} **Meaning:** 1) to show honour to, to honour 2) to raise the price of 3) to adjudge, award, in the sense of merited penalty 4) to tax with fault, rate, chide, rebuke, reprove, censure severely 4a) to admonish or charge sharply  
**Usage:** AV - rebuke 24, charge 4, straightly charge 1; 29

Devilish activity and idolatry goes all the way back to the Garden with the first man and woman who listened to the serpent and gave place to the devil and satan.

There the devil is called by several titles.

Rev 12:9 And the **great dragon** was cast out, that **old serpent**, called **the Devil**, and **Satan**, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

There are devils that are messengers, also called demons, mentioned in this passage as unclean. The word unclean is used to distinguish the spirits from one another.

Evil spirits are messengers of satan, angels are messengers of satan or messengers of YeHoVaH.

Much of what we know about angels and demons are based on works pieced together by weaving verses and passages of the Bible to develop teachings about angels and demons.

These works, theologically, are called:

Angelology – the study of angels

Demonology – the study of demons

**THE MOST IMPORTANT THING** as a follower of Yeshua to know about demonology is that **as a follower of Yeshua, we have been given authority and power over satan and demons/devils as Yeshua had.**

The people were familiar with the unclean spirits, but apparently were unable to deal with them or did not engage with them.

Lk 4:36 And they were all amazed, and spake among themselves, saying, What a word *is* this! for with authority and power he commandeth the unclean spirits, and they come out.

Authority – **1849** ἐξουσία exousia {ex-oo-see'-ah}

**Meaning:** 1) power of choice, liberty of doing as one pleases 1a) leave or permission 2) physical and mental power 2a) the ability or strength with which one is endued, which he either possesses or exercises 3) the power of authority (influence) and of right (privilege)

**Usage:** AV - power 69, authority 29, right 2, liberty 1, jurisdiction 1, strength 1; 103

Power – **1411** δύναμις dunamis {doo'-nam-is}

**Meaning:** 1) strength power, ability 1a) inherent power, power residing in a thing by virtue of its nature, or which a person or thing exerts and puts forth 1b) power for performing miracles 1c) moral power and excellence of soul 1d) the power and influence which belong to riches and wealth 1e) power and resources arising from numbers 1f) power consisting in or resting upon armies, forces, hosts

**Usage:** AV - power 77, mighty work 11, strength 7, miracle 7, might 4, virtue 3, mighty 2, misc 9; 120

Commandeth – **2004** ἐπιτάσσω epitasso {ep-ee-tas'-so}

**Meaning:** 1) to enjoin upon, order, command, charge

**Usage:** AV - command 8, charge 1, enjoin 1; 10

Lk 4:37 And the fame of him went out into every place of the country round about.

Lk 4:38 And he arose out of the synagogue, and entered into Simon's house. And Simon's wife's mother was taken with a great fever; and they besought him for her.

Lk 4:39 And he stood over her, and rebuked the fever; and it left her: and immediately she arose and ministered unto them.

Notice: Yeshua rebuked the fever just as He had rebuked the unclean spirits.

Lk 4:40 Now when the sun was setting, all they that had any sick with divers diseases brought them unto him; and he laid his hands on every one of them, and healed them.

Lk 4:41 And devils also came out of many, crying out, and saying, Thou art Messiah the Son of God. And he rebuking them suffered them not to speak: for they knew that he was Messiah.

Lk 4:42 And when it was day, he departed and went into a desert place: and the people sought him, and came unto him, and stayed him, that he should not depart from them.

Lk 4:43 And he said unto them, I must preach the kingdom of God to other cities also: for therefore am I sent.

Lk 4:44 And he preached in the synagogues of Galilee.

**THE MOST IMPORTANT THING** as a follower of Yeshua to know about demonology is that **as a follower of Yeshua we have been given authority and power over satan and demons/devils as Yeshua had.**

Yeshua gave His disciples authority over demons/devils/unclean spirits to cast them out before they were filled with the Holy Spirit.

Mt 10:1 And when he had called unto *him* his twelve disciples, he gave them power *against* unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease.  
Mt 10:2 Now the names of the twelve apostles are these; The first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James *the son* of Zebedee, and John his brother;  
Mt 10:3 Philip, and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the publican; James *the son* of Alphaeus, and Lebbaeus, whose surname was Thaddaeus;  
Mt 10:4 Simon the Canaanite, and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed him.  
Mt 10:5 These twelve Yeshua sent forth, and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into *any* city of the Samaritans enter ye not:  
Mt 10:6 But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.  
Mt 10:7 And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand.  
Mt 10:8 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give.

Yeshua would say later in Luke:

Lk 11:23 He that is not with me is against me: and he that gathereth not with me scattereth.  
Lk 11:24 When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest; and finding none, he saith, I will return unto my house whence I came out.  
Lk 11:25 And when he cometh, he findeth *it* swept and garnished.  
Lk 11:26 Then goeth he, and taketh *to him* seven other spirits more wicked than himself; and they enter in, and dwell there: and the last *state* of that man is worse than the first.

Seeking out persons that practiced or had familiar spirits was forbidden and caused people to be defiled by them, rendering them unclean.

Lev 19:31 Regard not them that have familiar spirits, neither seek after wizards, to be **defiled** (become unclean) by them: I *am* the LORD your God.

YeHoVaH's plan for His people was the Ministry of the Prophets that inquired of Him on behalf of His people, whereas the nations around them sought supernatural information and direction from other sources such as:

DT 18:9 When thou art come into the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee, thou shalt not learn to do after the abominations of those nations.  
10 There shall not be found among you any one that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or that useth divination, or an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch.  
11 Or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer.  
12 For all that do these things are an abomination unto the Lord: and because of these abominations the Lord thy God doth drive them out from before thee.  
13 Thou shalt be perfect with the LORD thy God.  
14 For these nations, which thou shalt possess, hearkened unto observers of times, and unto diviners: but as for thee, the LORD thy God hath not suffered thee so *to do*.  
15 The LORD thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto him ye shall hearken;

The old fallen man is subject to its fallen master the devil.

The new man, the new creation in Messiah, is subject to its master YeHoVaH.

The old man, under its master the devil, is capable of all manner of abominable, corruptible, evil, and immoral works.

The old fallen man is subject to try and do whatever it gives itself over to and is not interested in pleasing YeHoVaH. That is the mindset of the world.

YeHoVaH gave His people His Word and His Prophets (The Ultimate Prophet Yeshua, the Word made flesh) to enquire of and warned them not to seek out people of the nations for guidance or direction.

There are those in the world, who have some religious knowledge, who will allow themselves to go so far in the world of immorality. They are thinking that they can control the situations, only to realize they have no control, as they thought, and are taken captive by their situations. This forces them to lie and cover up in order not to be seen as the evil that has been allowed to operate in them in darkness.

One cannot serve two masters. Don't think for a moment you can give in just a little to evil inclinations without becoming consumed by the evil you give in to, just a little.

### **To Avoid Being Demonized, People Must**

- Receive the message of truth.
- Repent from wrongdoing and living.
- Renounce immoral behavior.
- Return to YeHoVaH and live in His truth.

If you are going to engage in casting out unclean spirits, you must know the **rules of engagement**.

### **Rules of Engagement**

- Distinguish an unclean spirit from the carnal nature or person's normal behavior
- Casting out unclean spirits is easy
- You must know your authority is in Messiah
- The devil only respects the Law/Word of YeHoVaH
- Submit to YeHoVaH, resist the devil
- Speak with authority
- Unclean spirits leave, but they return
- The person, whom the spirits have been driven out, must submit to the Law/Word of YeHoVaH

Eph 6:10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

Eph 6:11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

Eph 6:12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*.

Eph 6:13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

Eph 6:14 Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;

Eph 6:15 And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

Eph 6:16 Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

Eph 6:17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

Eph 6:18 Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;