



Men's Discipleship Class – Week 12

December 13, 2018

Verses:

Matthew 25:41

Revelation 12:4

Matthew 8:28-29

Mark 1:34

Ephesians 8:12

Daniel 10:10-13

1 Kings 19:35

Acts 19:11-16

Jude 1:9

Mark 5:3-15

Luke 11:24-26

Ephesians 6:10-20

1 Timothy 4:1-3

2 Corinthians 10:3-6

We are going to talk about demons. Deacons are really pretty much the same thing, but we are going to talk about demons today. We looked at Satan last week. We will not go there, but in Matthew 25:41, which we will elude to this in a minute, it talks about the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. He has a destiny that I want to explain in a second particularly to follow up with Brady's questions.

Go first to Revelation 12:4. We are going to cover a lot of ground today. I am sure it will open up some questions. Revelation 12:4. This is a statement about Satan. It is kind of a metaphor of the woman and the dragon. It makes this statement.

[4His tail swept down a third of the stars of heaven and cast them to the earth.](#)

Apparently, from this Satan took one third of heaven with him. The Bible talks about it in another place in Revelation that the angels are myriads upon myriads, which is literally millions upon millions. You need to understand something. Remember that last week we talked about the fact that Satan is spatial. He is not God. He is a created being. If he is in Tel Aviv, he is not in Jerusalem. If he is in Bryan, he is not in College Station. He can only be in one place at one time. This means for most of us we are never going to see him in our entire lifetime. We are never going to deal with him.

When the Bible talks about Satan being involved in our life, he takes these demons, who are one third of heaven that fell with him and are now under his control, and they become his tool in your life. We are going to look at some scripture verses that indicate that. They become the issue that you face. We are going to fly here. Look at Matthew 8:29. Now listen to what he says about these guys. We will start in verse 28.

28And when he came to the other side, to the country of the Gadarenes, two demon-possessed men met him, coming out of the tombs, so fierce that no one could pass that way. 29And behold, they cried out, "What have you to do with us, O Son of God? Have you come here to torment us before the time?"

Obviously, the assumption by these guys is there is no chance of redemption. They do not come to him and ask him to please save them. The demons are never offered the blood of Jesus. Now the only explanation I have which is my own working out of the issue and one of the many reasons I am not a Calvinist is that I think when God created Adam and Eve he wanted one being in his image that would choose to love him and would not be forced to love him. We were created. The demons were never in him. We were given free will. He did two things, right? He allowed Satan in the garden and gave us an option with the tree that if we ate from we would die. So, we are free moral agents inside Genesis 1, 2, & 3. They are not. They were never given the option and the right. They are not free moral agents. So, they exercise the will they had no right to. When a third of them fell, their punishment is final. This is prepared for the devil and his angels. This lake of fire did not exist until Satan fell and took one third of heaven with him. Their destiny is set. Yours is not. You have a choice in your destiny. They do not.

Now, look at Mark 1:34. Slide over to Mark chapter 1, verse 34.

34And he healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons. And he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

Now, remember he says to Peter 'blessed are you Simon Peter flesh and blood is not revealed this to you but my father in heaven'. So, he wants the father to tell you about Jesus. As he is here and the demons begin to speak out in his ministry, he does not want them authenticating who he is. He wants the father authenticating who he is but not the demons. They know who he is. They do not debate that. He does not want his authentication as the Son of God coming from them.

Go to Ephesians 6:12. Hang a right. If you get to the maps, go back left. Ephesians 6:12. We are going to cover all over the Bible today so hang in there with me.

12For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

Now he uses all sorts of words, but obviously, there is an organization of demons in this world. We are going to see this in Daniel and how this works. Obviously, they are organized into groups, into systems, and into categories. He has them organized to wreak your life. Seriously, he says we do not wrestle against flesh and blood. We are going to talk about marriage next semester. One of the things that happens in our marriage is we fight against our wife when probably what we ought to be fighting is the influence that is impacting them instead of attacking them. So, we do not fight against people which is what we generally do. We are supposed to be debating the forces that are around people. These guys are organized.

Now, let me show you. Go to the book of Daniel. The Old Testament. Right after Ezekiel. Go to Daniel 10. We have a weird little section of scripture. Daniel 10:10-13. Daniel has been praying for three weeks.

10And behold, a hand touched me and set me trembling on my hands and knees. 11And he said to me, "O Daniel, man greatly loved, understand the words that I speak to you, and stand upright, for now I have been sent to you." And when he had spoken this word to me, I stood up trembling. 12Then he said to me, "Fear not, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand and humbled yourself before your God, your words have been heard, and I have come because of your words. 13The prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days, but Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I was left there with the kings of Persia,

Now, you have Gabriel. There are only two angels mentioned in the Bible. Gabriel and Michael. Michael we know is the archangel of God. He is therefore the ruling angel in heaven. Now, what Gabriel says and we will not go there, but in 1 Kings 19:35, I want to mention this. It says that in one night one angel killed 186,000 men. One night. So when Gabriel says the prince of Persia withstood me, he is not talking a physical being. One angel killed 186,000 men. So when Gabriel says I was battling with the kind of Persia (the prince of Persia), he is not referencing a man. He is representing a demonic organization. There was a demon in charge of the nation of Persia. Underneath him were thousands of demons. Daniel prays. Gabriel is sent to Daniel. It takes him three weeks to get from heaven to Daniel because this organization fights him all the way. As a matter of fact, he cannot get there. Michael, God's archangel, comes and deals with the prince of Persia. It allows Gabriel to show up and then tell Daniel what is going to happen. Three weeks to get there because of the battle that he faces. It takes the archangel of God to get him through. There is a demonic force around us. There is an organization of that demonic force. There would be then a demon in charge of Bryan. There would be a demon in charge of College Station. There is one in Dallas, and he owns the Cowboys.

Let me show you part of the organization. Go to Acts 19. I love this story. Acts 19. This is one of my favorite stories. There are some places in the Bible that occur and I say I would not mind being there. This is one of those places where I really want to be there. The Sons of Sceva. If you have a name like Sceva, you know it is not a good day. Okay?

11And God was doing extraordinary miracles by the hands of Paul, 12so that even handkerchiefs or aprons that had touched his skin were carried away to the sick, and their diseases left them and the evil spirits came out of them. 13Then some of the itinerant Jewish exorcists

So they are not Christians, right?

undertook to invoke the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits, saying, "I adjure you by the Jesus whom Paul proclaims." 14Seven sons of a Jewish high priest named Sceva were doing this. 15But the evil spirit answered them, "Jesus I know, and Paul I recognize, but who are you?" 16And the man in whom was the evil spirit leaped on them, mastered all of them and overpowered them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded.

Now, I kind of would have liked to have seen that. Some cocky guy says 'hey, in the name of Jesus whom Paul preaches' and boom. He is unclothed and running into the road like an idiot. It is verse fifteen I want you to notice.

15But the evil spirit answered them, “Jesus I know, and Paul I recognize, but who are you?”

He did not know him. Why would he recognize his name? Because inside this organization, they have been talking about him. They have been discussing him. It is kind of a bad, negative deal. You kind of want your life to be the kind of life that the demons are bothered by the fact that you live in this city. Paul bothers them. They have discussed it. Obviously, the demons are not really (if this is correct) free range. They settle in an area. Satan has them organized. They have, I think obviously here, geographical assignments. Then here there is also personal assignments. You have this really deep and exactly what Ephesians 6:12 says. We read that and blow it off.

When you really look at the scripture, there is a demonic organization around us that we do not see. Now, they are amazingly powerful. Go to the book of Jude verse nine. If one angel killed 186,000 men, demons have not lost their power nor their insight. If you get to Revelation, hang a real quick left. There is no chapter in Jude. It is just one book. We are going to verse nine. This is actually a quote by the way out of a different book. It is not in the scripture. Obviously, that part of the book is true.

9But when the archangel Michael, contending with the devil, was disputing about the body of Moses, he did not presume to pronounce a blasphemous judgment, but said, “The Lord rebuke you.”

You have Michael and Satan. Michael, the archangel, and Satan. Michael will not jack with people. Satan was the head of all that God had made. We know that from Ezekiel and Isaiah which we saw last week. Satan wants the body. It is more than likely Moses was mummified by the Egyptians. If he was and we found him today, he would probably still have hair, skin, and nails. He wanted the body because if he can get the body, he can get Israel to worship the body of Moses instead of the God of Moses. Brilliant. So, he and Michael are arguing about it. Moses we know is buried in Jordan somewhere in the mountains of Moab. When Michael deals with Satan, he does not dare jack with him. He says ‘you have to deal with the Lord’. He pulls the Lord into the equation because even the archangel of God cannot overpower this guy. There is gradation in their power and in their strength. Not all angels or all demons are the same. So, there is this amazing organization of geographical control, personal control, and then a difference in strength.

Now, look at Mark 5. Obviously, there is a tendency then to fear. We know this story. It is about this guy that beginning in verse three.

3He lived among the tombs. And no one could bind him anymore, not even with a chain, 4for he had often been bound with shackles and chains, but he wrenched the chains apart, and he broke the shackles in pieces. No one had the strength to subdue him. 5Night and day among the tombs and on the mountains he was always crying out and cutting himself with stones.

This is the end Satan has for you.

6And when he saw Jesus from afar, he ran and fell down before him. 7And crying out with a loud voice, he said, “What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I adjure you by God, do not torment me.” 8For he was saying to him, “Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!” 9And Jesus asked him, “What is your name?” He replied, “My name is Legion, for we are many.”

So there is about 5,000 demons in this guy.

10And he begged him earnestly not to send them out of the country. 11Now a great herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside, 12and they begged him, saying, "Send us to the pigs; let us enter them." 13So he gave them permission. And the unclean spirits came out and entered the pigs; and the herd, numbering about two thousand, rushed down the steep bank into the sea and drowned in the sea.

So you can reach a point where Satan is on the outside or you can somehow get to where he becomes in the inside where he is in total control. You are in the term we use 'possessed'. You cannot get him out. It requires Jesus to move him out from the inside back to the outside. Not all lost people are possessed. For some lost people, most lost people probably, he is on the outside dealing with them. There are some for whatever cause Satan gets inside, gains total control, and in the case of this guy is messed up. Now, when Jesus finishes look in verse 15.

15And they came to Jesus and saw the demon-possessed man, the one who had had the legion, sitting there, clothed and in his right mind, and they were afraid.

So when Jesus finished and does what he does, then he brings total healing. Now, here is the problem. Exorcism is not the answer. It is the beginning of the answer. Look with me at Luke 11:24-26. Now there are only as far as we can tell six times when Jesus actually we see a direct exorcism. There is allusion to other exorcism like Mary Magdalene. There is really only six. Once the exorcism occurs now this guy is sitting, he is clothed, he is in his right mind, but now he is in a very, very dangerous and vulnerable position. Look at Luke 11:24.

24"When the unclean spirit has gone out of a person, it passes through waterless places seeking rest, and finding none it says, 'I will return to my house from which I came.' 25And when it comes, it finds the house swept and put in order. 26Then it goes and brings seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they enter and dwell there. And the last state of that person is worse than the first."

So apparently, what happens somewhere in this deal is this guy is demon possessed and demoniac. Someone must have performed an exorcism or somehow these demons left him. He did not respond back to God. Seven more came and now it begin a filling process where he has 5,000 beings in him. So, when a person is exorcised, that opens the chance to be healed. Now they have to make a choice in Jesus. If they say no to Christ, they are now in danger. Here is the key. Now we will not go there. Revelation 3:20. What does it say?

20Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.

Is he talking to lost people or Christians? Right. He will not even bust the door of his own house. One thing you understand from Revelations 3:20 is that you have total freedom to whether or not you want Jesus Christ in your life. You decide how far he goes. So if I am exorcised and I decide that I kind of enjoy what I used to do and I do not really want this Jesus thing in my life, I put myself in a worse position than I was before I was exorcised. Then, the demons begin to fill me and to control me. I think that is the explanation for five thousand demons.

God is bigger. Go to Ephesians 1. I want you to understand. There is the Greek word we are going to look at so that we understand. I know there is a teaching from Florida Theological

Seminary, which is known as one of the more conservative seminaries in the country, where one of the professors was teaching just the other day that as a Christian you could be controlled from within by demons. On that basis, you need to have other Christians pray over you. This is kind of a common mantra particularly in the charismatic movement. There are a lot of us that began to think that particularly if we have an addictive issue. We think that we need to get this demon out of me. He is in control of me. Look at Ephesians 1:13-14.

13In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, 14who is the guaranteed of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

This is the Greek word. σφραγίζω // sphragizó It means to seal. That is settle. The Holy Spirit of God seals you. For how long? Until you die. Now. That Greek word was literally used when a king had something he wanted to seal and no one was allowed to read it. He would put wax on it and seal it. He would then take his ring and put his ring into that soft wax so that when somebody saw that letter and saw his seal, they knew only the king could open that letter. That is what is behind the Greek word sphragizó. That is what says you are sealed by the Holy Spirit of God. Don't you dare let anybody ever tell you that the enemy can fill you again. You are sealed. He cannot come in you ever again. That is done. So, when these people start coming to you and saying that they have a demon that is not true. They may have a demon in their brain. They are probably related to Ocasio-Cortez. For those of you who do not know who that is, God help her. So, we are sealed. The Holy Spirit is in us. For how long? He never leaves. So, I am sealed for how long? Until the day I die. He cannot have me. So, what do I do?

Go to Ephesians 6. I told you we were going to have to cover a little ground today. Slide over to the sixth chapter. Verse 10. Listen to what he says.

10Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might.

So, if you go back to Michael not jacking with Satan, you better understand that you cannot jack with a demon. You said they were not inside me. They cannot possess you. Do you remember what we talked about having one nature? Right? We have one nature. So, we are not controlled from the inside but are directed. The enemy directs us where God does not want us to go. How does he direct us? By the enemy speaking to us. I do not have the power to overcome that, so I have to be strong in the Lord in the strength of his might. This talks about the armor of God, wrestling against the devil.

11Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. 12For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. 13Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. 14Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness,

He goes through all of these things.

15and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. 16In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; 17and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, 18praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and

supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, ¹⁹and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.

The shield of faith is I believe what God tells me and that extinguishes his power in my life. That is it. I believe what God says. He cannot have me. I just believe what God says. He does have me. Anything outside of the scripture is demonic.

Look at 1 Timothy 4:1. Please do not take me today as anti-Catholic. I am not. I grew up hearing guys say that. I am not anti-Catholic, but I do think they put themselves in a demonic position. This is where you find that. Look at 1 Timothy 4:1-3.

¹Now the Spirit expressly says that in later times some will depart from the faith by devoting themselves to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons, ²through the insincerity of liars whose consciences are seared, ³who forbid marriage and require abstinence from foods that God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth.

He says if you forbid marriage, like you should never marry, it is a doctrine of demons. So, if you have a church that forbids marriage, they are living under a demonic doctrine which would explain the pedophilia inside the church. You step away from scripture. A demon would love to abuse a child. They have opened themselves up to demonic spirits because they bought into this teaching. So, when I leave the scripture, I step into teaching of demons. Again, there are only two truths in the world being His truth and demonic truth. You have one nature. Whichever one you believe will direct you wherever that teaching goes.

That is why you have this last passage I want you to look at. 2 Corinthians 10:3-6. Listen to what he says.

³For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. ⁴For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. ⁵We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ, ⁶being ready to punish every disobedience, when your obedience is complete.

How do I take thoughts captive to obey Christ? I believe what God says in his word. If I do that, my thoughts are now captive to Christ. If I ignore what God says in his word, my thoughts are not captive to Christ. I open myself up to the enemy.

I am going to give you my story. We are not going to start any stories today. I am the only one allowed to tell stories. I know someone will want to, but we are just not going to go there. Let me just tell you. I think this is exactly true. When I was a summer missionary back in college, I was in my sophomore year and was on the Zuni Indian reservation. They had a rain dance. It was not open obviously to white people, but a buddy of mine and I were summer missionaries together. I thought we would go. We climbed up on top of one of the buildings. We were looking down at it. There it is not for tourist. It is a legitimate rain dance. So, obviously staying in the scripture, they are worshipping and calling on demons. They do not realize that, but that is what they are doing. We are watching. They look up at us a few times pretty hacked that we are up there. I am laughing. No big deal. We get back to the place where we are sleeping. My partner was John Johnson from Johnson City, Tennessee. I am not making this up. He probably was the demon

possessed in and of himself. We are sitting in the room together. I wake up. I am dead awake about one o'clock. I sense a being standing next to me speaking to me. I am immediately terrified. I try to scream out to him because he is right next to me. I cannot speak. After a little bit, that being leaves me. I am able to speak, but the terror is gone. Obviously, I am extremely unnerved. I get up the next day. This is the first time in my life I have ever done this. Obviously, I have just been called to preach. I have never really been a serious Christian. I get up the next day. I spend about ten hours just reading the Bible and praying then reading the Bible and praying. I do this back and forth for about ten hours. Finally, I sensed God say to me that he has my back which is what Joshua 1:9 says. So, I go to sleep that night and wake up again at one o'clock. This is the same time. I sense a being next to me. I feel a hand slowly moving down the pillow toward my neck. I told God that this was his problem. I roll over and go back to sleep. I have never dealt with that since. I believe that I was not where I should have been. I opened myself up not to the possession but to the oppression of the enemy. Had I been here to witness, I do not think I would have been under the assault I was under. I was here thinking it was cute and funny. What God taught me through that was you do not jack with the enemy. You are not as big as they are right now which is really what is taught right here. You better live under my truth, or you will have difficulties. No. I was not smoking a peace pipe. That is my deal. I think you have to be careful. I hear people be cocky as Christians. If Michael, who can kill 186,000 men in one day, would not jack with Satan, you better not think you can. Satan is smarter than you are. He knows the Bible better than you do. He can direct you anywhere he pretty much wants you to go if you trust what he says. I have to stay clear. I have to stand inside the box of scripture and believe what it says to allow the Spirit to fill me. That is my protection from the enemy. The odds are that you will never see Satan. He will never maybe even know who you are. His imps will.