

# Introduction

1. Topical Series Limitations

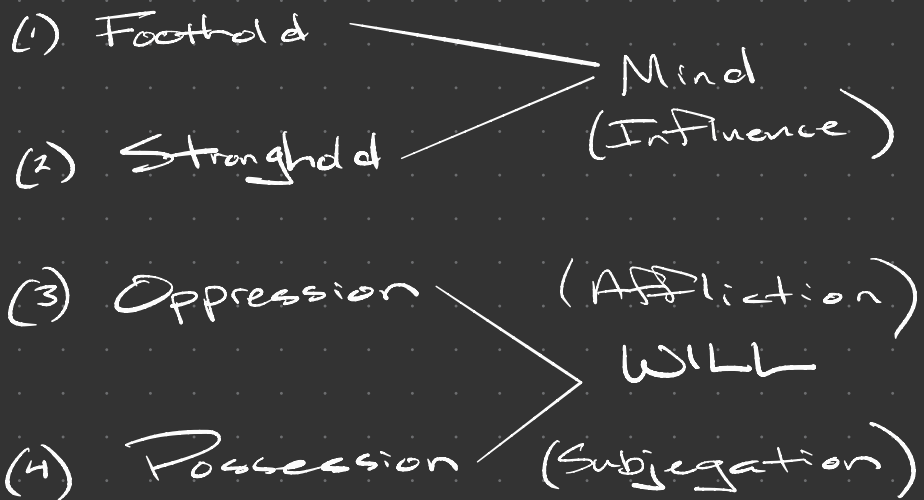
2. Your Own Worst Enemy

(1) What if...

3. Reverse Engineering

# I. Satans Plan To Oppress Everyone

## 1. Dominion Drift (Slippery Slope)



## 2. Oppression Defined

**Matt. 8:16** - That evening they brought to him many who were **oppressed** by demons, and he cast out the spirits with a word and healed all who were sick.

- (1) Oppression = external, demonic torment & temptation of a person intended to diminish their awareness of God, joy in God, or effectiveness for God. Including one's circumstances, health, dreams, relationships, focus & desires.

## (1) Examples

1. Act 16:16 - Finances
2. Matt. 4:24 - Health
3. Job 4:16 - Possible nightmares
4. Jn 10:10 - steal, kill, destroy
5. Gen 3. - Tempt to sin
6. Jn 8:44 - desires
7. Matt 16:23 - Relationships
8. 1 Peter 5 - Seems to directly connect him to general suffering
9. Rev. 20:3 - deceiving nations

## 3. Oppression & The Non Believer

(1) Main Goal: Diminished awareness

**2 Corinthians 4:4** - In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

1. All suffering is to undermine the idea of God or his goodness

## 4. Oppression & The Believer

**Eph. 6:16** - In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one...

**1 Pet. 4:12** - Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you.

(1) Main goal: diminished joy & effective

(2) How = persecution, temptation & accusation (more next week)

## II. Demon's Attempts To Possess Someone

### 1. Possession Defined

**Matt. 8:28** - And 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.

(1) Demon possessed = *daimonizomai*

In his classic book, *Demon Possession & the Christian: A New Perspective*, Dr. Dickason wrote:

The verb *daimonizomai* means "to be possessed by a demon." The participle from the same root, *daimonizomenos*, is used twelve times in the Greek New Testament. It is used only in the present tense, indicating the continued state of one inhabited by a demon, or demonized. This participle has components to its structure. First there is the root, *daimon*, which indicates the involvement of demons. Second is the causative stem, *iz*, which shows that there is an active cause in this verb. Third is the passive ending, *omenos*. This conveys the passivity of the person described as demonized. Putting it all together, the participle in its root form means, "a demon caused passivity." This indicates a control other than that of the person who is demonized; he is regarded as the recipient of the demon's action. In other words, demonization pictures a demon controlling a somewhat passive human (pg. 37).

- (1) Ownership vs. Squatting
  - 1. Invaders of territory, not theirs
- (2) Defined: The allowed, indwelt, demonic, subjugation of a person (incl. will, thoughts, actions)

## 2. Possession & The Nonbeliever

### (1) Judas

**Jn. 12:1-8** - Six days before the Passover, Jesus therefore came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. So they gave a dinner for him there. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with him at table. Mary therefore took a pound of expensive ointment made from pure nard, and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (he who was about to betray him), said, "Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" He said this, not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief, and having charge of the moneybag he used to help himself to what was put into it. Jesus said, "Leave her alone, so that she may keep it for the day of my burial. For the poor you always have with you, but you do not always have me."

(2) The way Judas thought about money was the necessary foothold.

(3) Then, stronghold, begins to affect his life, relationships, decisions, actions

(4) Then look what happens

**Lk. 22:3** - Then satan entered into judas....

(5) Judas became a suitable host for possession because of, first, his thinking, then his lifestyle

**John 13:2** - During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him...

1. "when, had, put" = **beble kotos**  
grab & throw; cause to decide

2. Active = devil; passive = Judas

(4) In other words, will subjugated

## (4) Subjugation:

1. Will

2. Thoughts

3.

Action

(Suicide)  
Judas

## 3. Possession & The Believer

### (1) Demonization

**2 Cor. 2:10-11** - Anyone whom you forgive, I also forgive. Indeed, what I have forgiven, if I have forgiven anything, has been for your sake in the presence of Christ, so that we would not be **outwitted** by Satan; for we are not ignorant of his designs.

(2) Outwitted = (get an advantage)  
Play-oh-neck-tay-oh =  
taken advantage of;  
exploitation; greedy;  
taking more than due

### (3) Idea

1. Renters
2. Leeches

## III. Confrontation

### 1. Taking Thoughts Captive

**2 Corinthians 10:3-5** - For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ...

### 2. Confessing Sin

#### (1) Persistent Sin

**2 Timothy 2:26** - ...and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will.

**Hebrews 12:1** - Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which [entangles], and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us...

### 3. Keeping a short account

**Ephesians 4:26-27** - Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and give no opportunity to the devil.

### 4. The Occult & Pseudo-Religions

- (1) Divination - knowing future
- (2) Necromancy - talking to dead
- (3) Magic, witchcraft, sorcery
- (4) Astrology - Babylon & Egypt
- (5) False Gods / Religions

### 5. Skilled Help



# Conclusion

## 1. Bind the "Strong man"

**Mark 3:22-27** - And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem were saying, "He is possessed by Beelzebul," and "by the prince of demons he casts out the demons." And he called them to him and said to them in parables, "How can Satan cast out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but is coming to an end. But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man. Then indeed he may plunder his house..."

- (1) Invalidates working w/ Satan
- (2) Came to bind the strong man (Satan)
- (3) MK 1:7 - Stronger man come to plunder his house

**Lk. 4:17-19** - And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

1. And set captives (hostages) free

## 2. Loose the "Strong God" (to bind the strong man)

**Ps. 9:9** - The Lord is a stronghold for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble.

- (1) If things feel oppressive right now, I have a verse.

Psalm 91:1-16