

## Satan's Target - Your Mind

Proverbs 23:7

We have come to our final study in our series from the book "Deliverance from Demonic Oppression." In our previous studies of demonic activity, we have seen that Satan's goal is to capture your train of thought. Therefore, as we come to the end of our studies in this area of Deliverance, we are going to target some demonic activity by name.

When Satan wanted to lead the first man and woman into sin, he started by attacking the woman's mind. This is made clear in 2 Corinthians 11:3, "But I am afraid, lest as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds should be led astray from the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ."

Why would Satan want to attack your mind? Because *your mind is the part of the image of God where God communicates with you and reveals His will to you.* It is unfortunate that some Christians have minimized the significance of the mind, despite the fact that the Bible emphasizes its importance, as seen in Romans 12:2, "And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect." Your *mind* affects your whole being!!

As one studies the emotions of a person we come face to face with what psychologists call "Schizophrenia." "Schizophrenia" is a very common problem. Some authorities in the field of mental illness estimate there may be as many as fifty million persons in the United States who are afflicted to some degree with schizophrenia. In their book, "Brain, Mind, and Behavior", Bloom and Hofstadter conclude that " ... schizophrenics are estimated to make up about 50% of state psychiatric hospital admissions, with 3,000,000 new cases every year." Some cases are acute while others are quite mild, requiring no professional treatment. *Schizophrenia* has remained a very baffling

problem to mental health professionals. The *cause* and *cure* has remained shrouded in uncertainty.

Schizophrenia is often referred to as "split personality" or "double mindedness." It may surprise some people to know that the Bible has a word for this problem in James 1:8, "A double-minded man is unstable in all his ways." The Amplified translation translates James 1:7-8 this way, "(For being as he is) a man of two minds - hesitating, dubious, irresolute - (he is) unstable and unreliable and uncertain about everything (he thinks, feels, decides)." The phrase translated "two minds" comes from a compound Greek word literally meaning "two souls."

No one illustrates this truth any better than Frank and Ida Mae Hammond in their book "Pigs in the Parlor." Therefore, I want to share with you how demonic activity manifest itself in your every day living, by showing you the drawing of the hands and Fingers.

The first diagram shows the Inward Affects of Demonic Oppression. Remember, whether you are saved or lost Satan's target is your mind – his attacks always start with your thought life. Paul gives us this insight in Romans 7:22-23, "For I delight in the law of God according to the inward man. But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin, which is in my members." Paul also admonishes us in 2 Corinthians 10:3-6, "For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled."

Child of God, if one is going to live the "Victorious Christian Life" it is absolutely essential to maintain a disciplined mind, that is, to become aware of the thoughts that are coming from Satan and the thoughts that are coming from holy God!

The question is: “How can we tell the difference?” **The answer is pretty simple: the thoughts of God will ALWAYS line up with the Word of God.** The thoughts from the enemy will often include sexual fantasies and imagination, lusting after something, covetousness; in other words the things of the flesh.

This hand diagram shows the inward effects of demonic oppression:

This diagram shows the outward effects of demonic oppression:

Millions of people live in perpetual defeat and humiliation because they do not understand spiritual warfare. In Ephesians 6, we are told to "stand." Listen to me: God's highest goal is not your comfort. God's highest goal is that you conform to the image of Jesus Christ, and Jesus stood for something.

Child of God, Calvary is not the name of some picnic ground just outside the eastern wall of Jerusalem. It is the place of a battlefield where Jesus Christ made a stand against the hordes of hell. Thank God He won the victory! Stand in the face of your enemy and command him to leave your life alone!! Victory is ours in Jesus' name!!!

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