

Evil Harassment and the Bondage Breaker

The problem of evil harassment has been on earth since almost the beginning of time, and it will become worse and worse as we near the time Christ is to

come again. Today we are experiencing incidents in which even little children are harassed by the evil powers. For example, in Eskimo villages children have been physically thrown about their homes after they have viewed violent, occult videos or read brutal comic books. Knowing their minds are overloaded with the evil things they have read and seen, the Devil in his ugliness will even seek to take over their physical lives.

Some Native folk who have been involved with drugs and alcohol find it almost impossible to fight off evil harassment, never having the opportunity to know true peace in their lives.

We can call upon the power of God and know true peace when evil harasses us.

Like in the old days, in some places there are still witch doctors and evil medicine men who practice their trade. The Devil uses these people in astonishing and horrible ways.

The Lenape in the Southwest still have medicine men called “evil herbalists.” These men go into the woods and find certain plants. They speak grimly to the plant’s spirit, repeating the name of a victim whom they wish the plant to curse. They dig up the plant, violently scattering as much dirt from its roots as possible.

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By these actions the herbalist suggests that he wants his victim shown no mercy. Drowning the plant in a stream of water, he roughly pulls off its roots while speaking over and over the name of the victim he wishes to be cursed. The evil herbalist might utter a curse of poverty or some other affliction as he flings the roots into the stream. He may curse the victim into becoming an alcoholic by immersing these roots into a small bottle of whiskey. Others might hire the evil shaman to curse an individual hoping to cause him injury or even death.

Source: *The Spirit World*. Time Life Books, 1992, pp. 106–112.

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A rare evil charm used by Southern Cheyenne warriors was that of placing rattlesnake heads on hot coals in a hole in the ground and then covering them with fresh liver and the gall of a wild animal. During the process of steaming, the liver absorbs the poison from the heads. The poisoned liver is then carefully preserved in a little buckskin bag. Its owner wears it around his neck, believing that by looking intently at his desired victim, even from a distance, and by murmuring evil words, he might even cause his enemy's death.

Source: *Ibid.* Pp. 12–13.

Evil people can't do these things effectively on their own. It is Satan and his evil angels who are at work in these curses and charms. If we don't have our faith and knowledge grounded upon the truths of God's plan for our lives, we can be deceived by the Devil and his powers.

Today many Native people in North America realize the power of evil influences. Many are asking to have their homes blessed and protected by prayer, so that evil powers may be kept away. They also dedicate themselves never to allow illicit drugs to confuse their minds or alcohol to dim their senses, so they can stay close to God's presence and protection.

God wants to help us in this great war against the Devil and his angels. We can call upon the power of God when evil harasses us. We can know true peace as we prepare for the second coming of Jesus.



Key Thought. The Bible tells us that the Devil is like a roaring lion walking about seeking whom he may devour (1 Peter 5:8). Satan is doing whatever he can to break our relationship with Jesus. Satan will use fear, confusion, perversion, or anything else just to get our minds off spiritual things. The Scriptures also tell

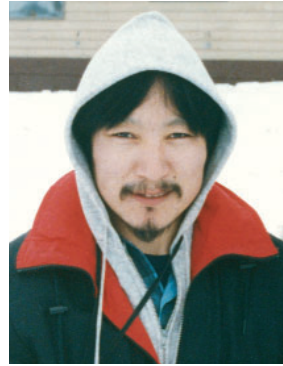
us that by choosing to let God protect us, we can have the power and strength of God to help us resist the Devil's harassment and pressures. The key to receiving this protection is to ask and allow God to help us.

When we focus on evil and violence, our minds will naturally be opened to the influencing forces of the



The war between good and evil finds its battleground in our minds.

What we choose to allow into our minds and to take into our bodies will determine who controls us.



Devil. This may take place through the movies we watch, the things we choose to read, or our choice of friends.

The war between good and evil finds its battleground in our minds. What we choose to allow into our minds and to take into our bodies will determine who controls us.

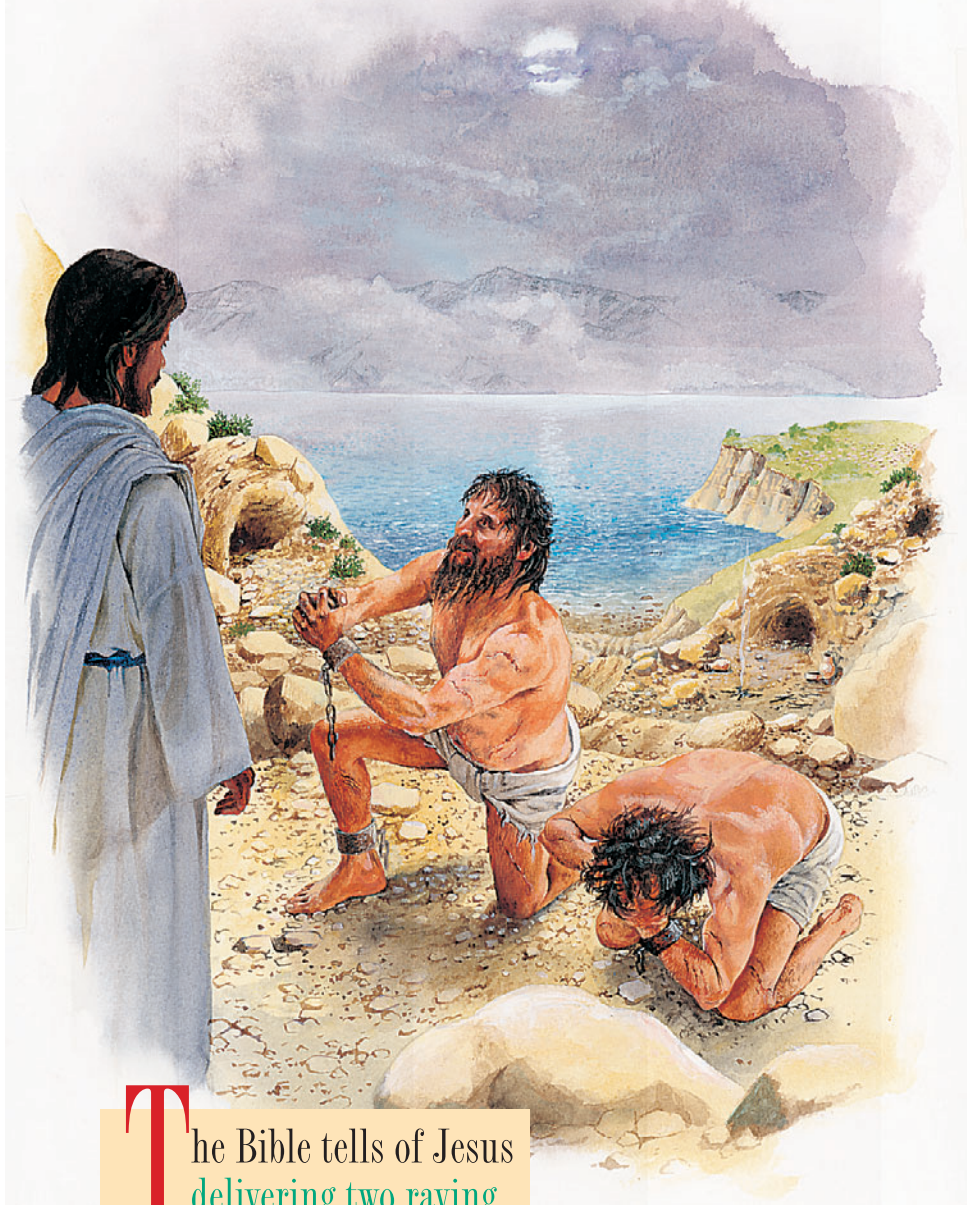
BIBLE ANSWERS

1. Who does the Bible say we all wrestle with?

Ephesians 6:12. “For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the _____ of the _____ of this age.” *(All quotations from the Bible in these lessons are taken from the New King James Version (NKJV) unless otherwise noted.)*

Note. So often we forget that the Devil and his angels are real. So often they are passed off as a fairy tale or a creation of our imagination. But many people will testify today that the Devil is real, because they have actually seen the physical evidence of Satan’s presence. Some have seen people picked up off the ground and thrown around. We have seen such powers taking control of a person’s life, voice, and actions.

The Bible tells us that the Devil can actually hurl



The Bible tells of Jesus delivering two raving men from evil harassment (Matthew 8:28-34).

flaming missiles of evil at us (Ephesians 6:13–17). Of course the Devil’s missiles refer to any method he may use to defeat us and ruin our relationship with Jesus. The Devil may bring “tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword” (Romans 8:35), but through faith we can stay close to Jesus for comfort and protection (Romans 8:37–39). The Evil One may try to use such human weaknesses as worry, greed, lust, envy, pride, and even fear of ridicule to accomplish our spiritual downfall, but our Lord will help us when we ask (Ephesians 6:18). We can “be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might” (Ephesians 6:10).

Divine power is the only power Satan and his angels fear (James 2:19).

We can be “strong in the Lord and the power of His might.” Jesus is our “bondage breaker.”



2. What determines whether or not we will be overcome by evil? Romans 6:16. “Do you not know that . . . you are that one’s slaves whom you _____?”

Note. The powers of evil are everywhere and are very strong. Only as we choose to allow God and His angels to protect our minds and thoughts can we know deliverance and peace. If we dim our minds with alcohol or illicit drugs, we are not able to think clearly enough to

choose and accept divine help. If we allow our minds to dwell on sadistic things, violence, or hatred, Satan is right there to try to take control. Because we are aligning ourselves with him by doing these things and thinking the way he thinks, this allows Satan to lead us.

When we choose to do evil, to think evil, or to experience things that make us lose control of our thinking, Satan will do our thinking for us. The choice is ours; we can choose to allow the Devil to control us, or we can choose to allow God to guide and protect our minds hour by hour and minute by minute.

The choice is ours. We can choose to align ourselves with God and let Him guide and protect our minds.

3. Will evil demons attempt to harass Christians? Ephesians 6:10–11. “Finally, my brethren, . . . Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to _____ against the wiles of the devil.”

Note. Paul is here talking about those who have already given their hearts to Christ. Satan will do anything he is allowed to do to influence them back to his evil side and ways. It’s not the Devil’s desire that any of us should be saved. He wants us to be lost, like he will be.

4. What will give us deliverance from bondage to Satan and his influences? John 8:32. “And you shall know the truth, and the _____ shall make you free.”



The truth is that
Jesus is more
powerful than Satan.
When we resist Satan
by choosing God's truths and protection,
Satan is forced to back off from us.

Note. Freedom from spiritual bondage or encounters with demonic forces comes only from a stronger power. This power is found in a relationship with the God of faith and love. The truth is that Jesus is more powerful than Satan, and Jesus is ready to protect us if we will just ask Him to.

The Bible tells us that when we allow Jesus to help us, Satan and his angels flee from the power of God. Satan's power is in lies. When we resist Satan by choosing God's truths and protection, Satan is forced to back off from us. (See James 4:7.)

A neighbor had a small yapping dog that continually frightened a little boy. When the dog came barking, the little boy's dad and brother stood their ground, but the little boy ran. Guess whom the dog chased? The boy escaped to the bed of the pickup truck, while the little dog yapped from the ground.

Everyone except the little boy could see that the dog had no power over him except what he allowed the dog to have. The dog controlled the boy's mind and emo-

tions, and even his muscles, all of which were motivated by fear. When he realized that his father and brother would protect him, the boy gathered up his courage, jumped off the pickup, and kicked gravel at the dog. Immediately it ran away.

Satan is like that yapping little dog, deceiving people into thinking that he is stronger than God. Satan's power is in this lie. He is the father of lies who deceives the whole world (John 8:44; Revelation 12:9). Satan can do nothing about your position in Christ. If you stand up against Satan and his demons by sincerely and honestly declaring that you are putting your life in Christ's hands, the Devil will flee from you. This is how we can resist the Devil (James 4:7).

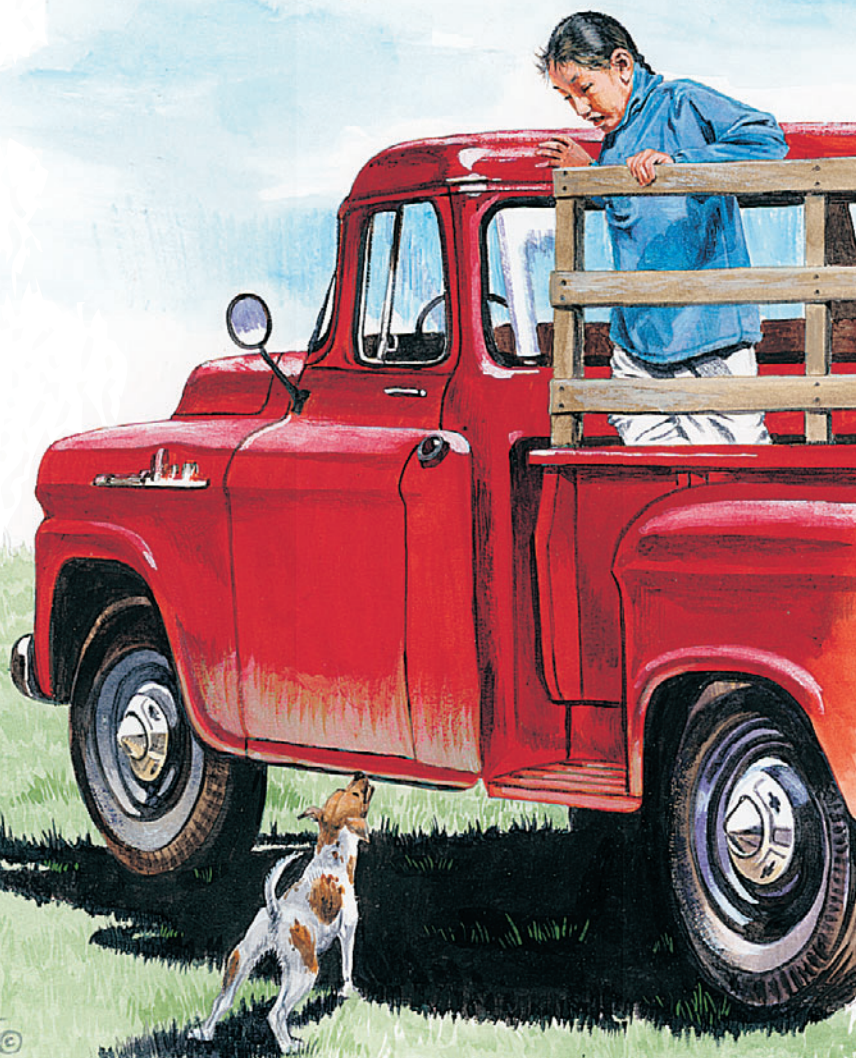


Satan can do nothing about your position in Christ . . . “Greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world” (1 John 4:4, KJV).

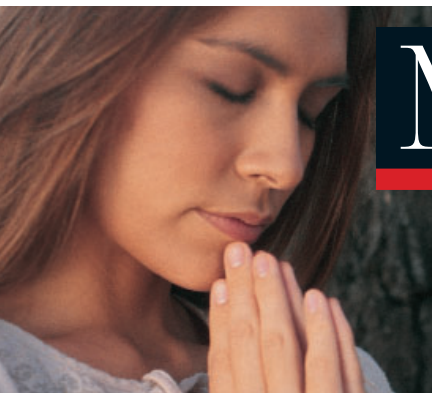
The truth is that when we call on God, Christ and His angels will immediately come to our side to battle the powers of the Evil One. This is why many have found that when they call on Jesus for help, they experience tremendous victories! Satan and his angels can't stand against our Christ of truth.

Scripture says that if we will cry to the Lord, we will be delivered, and if we trust in Him, we will not be ashamed or disappointed as a result (Psalm 22:5). God has promised to deliver us when we cry to Him for help. His promises never fail.

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ot only does evil lack power over us, but the same power that protects us will also help us do what is right.

5. What equips us for our warfare against evil?

2 Corinthians 10:4–5. “For the weapons of our warfare are . . . mighty in God for _____, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the _____ of Christ.”

Note. The Devil understands that Christ will protect us when we call on Him. He also knows that when we have honestly determined in our heart to do what is right, he will be forced to flee from us. Not only does he lack power over us, but the same power that protects us will also help us do what is right.

Satan and his angels have no power over a Christian who in his heart really wants to do what is right and decides to grow into what Christ wishes him to be. Our willingness to open up completely to Christ’s leading is all the permission God needs to protect us and change us.

6. What does God offer to the followers of Jesus whose minds are harassed by Satan and his angels?

2 Timothy 1:7. “For God has not given us a spirit of

fear, but of power and of love and of a _____
_____.”

Note. Fear brings confusion. Whether it is the confusion of not knowing where we are headed, or what we should be thinking, or what is right, Satan knows that if he can keep our minds confused, he can also keep us from choosing to follow Christ. Only those who decide to follow the plan of Christ for their lives will know peace. (See Psalm 119: 165.) True peace is a precious thing that few have in our world today. God offers help and peace that passes all understanding to all who turn to Him for help when they are harassed by Satan and his evil angels.

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7. Of what may the trusting follower of Christ be confident in spite of the Devil’s temptations? Romans 8:38–39. “For I am persuaded that [nothing] . . . shall be able to _____ us from the _____ of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Note. The key to victory over the Devil is to constantly hold on to God by faith and continued submission to



We are up against great strength and powers against which we are no match. Only in the greater power of Christ, the “Bondage Breaker,” do we have victory.

His will, allowing nothing to separate us from His love and plans for our lives. Those who struggle with deep-seated sins and habits may have to hold on and cry to God minute by minute to find relief from Satan’s influence. All of us must daily hold on to Christ in order to be protected from the Evil One and his evil angels.

We are up against great strength and power against which we are no match. Only in a power greater than these evil powers do we have victory. We can be thankful that we have Christ to turn to. Christ is our hope, strength, and victory!

Next Lesson. We will look at traditional Native religions and superstitions. Many of these are made up of ideas by self-styled experts on Native lore. What are the principles of knowing what is right and wrong when it comes to some traditional teachings that we see today?



*“Greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world”
(1 John 4:4, KJV).*



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