

DELIVERANCE

Deliverance has become a confusing term and to some a fearful term. It envisions people screaming, throwing up, and even flying around the room. The devil has done a fair job trying to counterfeit and even make a joke out of the ministry of deliverance so that it is no longer credible. Why? Because it is viable when handled properly and will help people get free of bondages. In fact, the Bible indicates it is not only real, but all Christians should be able and ready to do it when necessary. Jesus did it (Mark 1:34), the disciples did it (Matthew 10:8), and we are supposed to do it.

Mark 16:17-18

"And these signs will accompany those who have believed: in My name they will cast out demons, they will speak with new tongues;

they will pick up serpents, and if they drink any deadly {poison,} it shall not hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."

Deliverance is not really synonymous with exorcism. Exorcism is a ritual involving certain prayers, whereas deliverance is taking authority over and commanding a spirit to leave. The word cast out in the Greek is *ekballo*: *ek* meaning from, out of; *ballo* meaning to throw or cast. Therefore, it is really a spiritually violent, removing, tearing out, and casting out of spirits. This may, or may not, result in some outward physical manifestation by the person being delivered.

The important point is that it is an authority issue. The demon doesn't want to leave, even if it has no legal right to be there. He must be forced to go in the Name of Jesus.

Luke 10:19

"Behold, I have given you authority to tread upon serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall injure you."

The word for spirit in the Greek is *pneuma* which means breath or wind. It is not surprising, therefore, that when a spirit does leave during deliverance, it may be expelled by coughing, yawning, vomiting, etc., although this does not apply in all cases. Oftentimes, there is very little physical evidence a spirit is leaving, although the person will most likely feel a release.

It might also be noted that the demonic can have a stronghold due to some sin on the part of the demonized person. Repentance is necessary, without which a spirit has a legal right to stay. So, it is most very important that the person be led in any appropriate prayers of repentance prior to addressing any spirit.

Once released, the person must walk out his deliverance – not fall back into the same sin patterns and give entry to the demon again (Matthew 12: 43-45).