

# The Flesh and Demons Part 1!

*KJV 2 Corinthians 7:1* Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

The first thing I want to point out is Paul says we **should and can cleanse ourselves**.

**We can purify ourselves!** **Unclean spirit** is used 13 times 12 in the NT.

**Unclean** in the economy of God is anything **impure!** It's not pure if it was altered, changed, something added or taken away from the original.

**Purification** is a ritual performed by a priest to remove flaws, faults and sins. Making the person acceptable to approach a Holy God.

*KJV 1 Peter 2:9* But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people.

And as king priests we have been given the **rank and authority** to perform the ritual of cleansing upon ourselves and others.

We can purify ourselves and approach the throne of Grace!

As the OT teaches **God only uses clean vessels!**

*ESV 2 Timothy 2:21* Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from what is dishonorable, he will be a vessel for honorable use, set apart as holy, useful to the master of the house, ready for every good work.

**There is a two-fold purpose demons want to possess people:**

1. They need a body to function on earth, thus carrying out evil.
2. They don't want God to manifest His glory on earth through people.

Satan wants to **draft** you; he wants you on his team and he's willing to offer you the riches of this world.

He tried **drafting** Jesus in **Matt 4:8**, he offered Jesus a life-long contract worth **all the kingdoms of THIS world** if Jesus joined his team.

So, as our foundational scripture says **2 Cor 7:1** we must cleanse **ourselves** from **all** filthiness of **both** the **flesh** and **spirit**.

Paul mentions the **flesh** first, because the flesh is in constant contact with the world and how spirits enter and influence people.

*ESV James 1:14* But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire.

*15* Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

James says we are lured away from God by our fleshly desires.

A **lure** is **bait** placed on the end of a fishing line used to catch fish.

Lures are a colorful, noisy, shiny and some have smells or scents they give off to attract the fish to it!

Satan the god of this world (John 12:31, 2 Cor 4:4) uses everything in the world as bait for the flesh.

*KJV 1 John 2:16* For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

The world is bait (**loving the world**) for the flesh, once worldly pleasures take us captive, we are caught and trapped like a fish.

Now we are at the mercy of our captor; we are in his hand manipulated and controlled by him.

Satan uses the world to lure people and capture them then he impregnates them with **unclean spirits!**

*1 John 3:8* the one who practices sin is of the devil; for the devil has sinned from the beginning. The Son of God appeared for this purpose, that He might destroy the works of the devil.

*KJV John 8:44* Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do.

The Devil can father children, he does this, by capturing people and impregnating them with demonic seed (lies). Once the person is filled with **unclean spirits**, they give birth to sinful acts, deeds and people.

*ESV James 1:15* Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

**You can easily tell what has impregnated a person by what they talk about the most.!**

- ❖ Christian talks about The Kingdom and what God is doing!
- ❖ A worldly person talks about the world most of the time!

*KJV Matthew 12:34 O generation (born) of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh.*

The flesh opens the door for what spirit enters, impregnates, takes control in our lives and what we give birth to.

*ESV Romans 6:13 Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness.*

In other words, don't place yourself in a position for the devil or demons to use you, if you do they will enter your life and take control.

*ESV Romans 6:16 Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness?*

The places we visit the most we are offering ourselves to and support and serve—they in turn become our masters.

If it's the world, then we're serving Satan! If it's the Kingdom, then we're serving God!

Secondly Paul says to **cleansing our spirits** (2 Cor 7:1)!

**There are three cleansing agents in The Kingdom of God:**

We'll talk about them next time we gather together in The Name of The Lord!