The Believer's Authority

Kenneth E. Hagin

Chapter 8: Authority over Demon Spirits, Not Human Wills

- When it comes to humanity, we have authority over our lives and the lives of our families. We do *not* have authority over the will of others.

- The Bible identifies Satan as "the god of this world" (see 2 Corinthians 4:4). Demons have the right to function in the enemy's domain, but they cannot function in the domain of believers who exercise their authority over their lives and the lives of their families.

- In Acts 16 we find the account of a girl possessed with a spirit of divination, who followed Paul and Silas for many days. Paul cast the spirit out of the girl—but only after waiting on the Spirit of God for the right timing.

- For a person to be *demon possessed* is to be taken over entirely—spirit, soul, and body. To be *demon oppressed* is a different matter. Kenneth Hagin uses the following practical example to explain the difference:

  "If someone told you that your house has termites, it wouldn't mean that you have termites *in* you. Your body is the house you live in. If you know how, you can keep the termites out of your natural house—and the demons out of your physical house. They won't be there if you use the right precautions."

- We are to depend on the Spirit of God to know when and how to deal with demons. Exercising our authority over demons requires both the Spirit and the Word.

- We can be released from demonic oppression in our own bodies and minds. And we can exercise our spiritual authority on behalf of others who are in our presence and desire our help.

Discussion Questions

Why couldn't Kenneth Hagin cast out the demon from the man in his prayer line?

Can a Christian be demon possessed?

How are we to deal with demons?