

## **EVIL SPIRIT**

**Request:** “In 1 Sam.16:14, it says an evil spirit from the Lord terrorized King Saul. Please tell us about this evil spirit from the Lord.”

“Now the spirit (ruach) of the Lord departed (sur / kal pf) from Saul, and an evil (raah) spirit from the Lord terrorized (bath / piel pf) [to fall upon, startle, terrify].” (1 Sam.16:14)

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| <b>This lesson will study FIVE aspects of this evil spirit that fall upon King Saul.</b> |
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**1. God will not tempt with evil nor is He tempted with evil. It is contradictory of His essence such as holiness.**

“Let no man say when he is tempted, ‘I am being tempted by God’; for God cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone.” (James 1:13)

Then how do you explain this phrase, “an evil spirit from the Lord?” (1 Sam.16:23; 18:10-12; 19:9-11)

“**Evil spirit from the Lord** – this statement and similar ones in the Scriptures indicate that evil spirits are subject to God’s control; and operate only within divinely determined boundaries (Judges 9:23; 1 Kings 22:19-23; Job 1:12; 2:6; compare 2 Sam.24:1 with 1 Chron.21:1).” (NIV, **1 Sam.16:14**)

**2. Evil spirits are disembodied demons or fallen angels that operate under Satan dominion (1 John 5:19; John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11; 17:15; Eph.6:12).**

Disembodied spirits occurred in human history as a result of divine judgment upon the Antediluvian world (Gen.6; 2 Pet.2:4-5. Jude 6; 1 Pet.3:18-20).

“For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to pits of darkness, reserved for judgment.” (2 Pet.2:4; Matt.25:41)

“In which also He went and made proclamation to the spirits now in prison.” (1 Pet.3:19)

**3. However Satan and the fallen angels must operate under the sovereignty of the plan of God.**

This is seen in two heavenly councils regarding Job (Job 1:6-12; 2:1-6).

This teaches us that Satan's schemes against spiritual advancing believers – “In order that no advantage be taken of us by Satan (adversary); for we are not ignorant of his schemes.” (2 Cor.2:11)

Satan’s evil scheme was that under enough adversity Job would curse God (**Job 1:11, 22; 2:5, 9, 10, 12; 7:13-15**).

**Where did Satan learn that this was an issue in Job’s life?** “For Job said, ‘Perhaps my sons have sinned and cursed God in their hearts.’ Thus Job did continually.” (Job 1:5) [Reconnaissance / Old Man Cosmos Diabolicus (OMCD)]

#### 4. Satan's evil scheming against spiritual advancing believers is to attack their Achilles heel (OMCD).

- What was the evil scheme against Eve? (Gen.3:1-6) How did Satan learn that this was the issue to attack? (Gen.3:2 / OMCD issue; 2:16-17)
- What was the OMCD issue behind the evil scheme in Paul's life? (2 Cor.12:1-10) [pay attention to the words boast and exalting self]

“And because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, for this reason, to keep me from exalting myself, there was given me a thorn in the flesh, **a messenger of Satan to buffet me** – to keep me from exalting myself!” (2 Cor.12:7; Phil.3:4-10)

- What was the OMCD issue behind the evil scheme against the lives of Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 4:36-5:11).

“But Peter said, ‘Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit, and to keep back some of the price of the land?’” (5:3, 8)

**Each of these spiritually advancing believers had an Achilles heel** – “He (Christ) shall bruise you (Satan) on the head, and you (Satan) shall bruise him (Christ/ Christians) on the heel.” (Gen.3:15)

“The Son of God appeared for this purpose, that He might destroy the works of the devil.” (1 John 3:8; 1 Pet.3:22; Acts 26:18; Col.1:13)

“And the God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.” (Rom.16:20; 8:37-39; 1 John 5:4)

#### 5. Sometimes the spirit is a reference to the message of truth verses lies (1 John 4:1-6).

“Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.” (1 John 4:1)

“We are from God; he who knows God listens to us; he who is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know **the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.**” (1 John 4:6)

“But the Spirit explicitly says that in the latter times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons.” (1 Tim.4:1; 2 Pet.2:1-3)

“You are of your father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. **He was a murderer** from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature; for he is a liar, and the father of lies.” (John 8:44)

- What was **the issue** behind the evil scheming of these Jews that Jesus addressed in John 8? (John 8:6, 20, 37-47)

#### Two more examples for homework

- What was **the issue** of the Kings of Judah (Jehoshaphat) and Israel (Ahab) in 1 Kings 22:19-23?
- “I will go out and be a deceiving spirit in the mouth of all his prophets.” (1 Kings 22:22) (1 Kings 22:6-8, 11-18; 21:19; 22:38)
- What was the issue between Abimelech and men of Shechem (**Judges 9:22-24 (Judges 8:35; 9:5, 53-57)**). “Then God sent an evil spirit between Abimelech and them men of Shechem.” (Judges 9:23)