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# REASONS WHY SOME MAY NOT BE SET FREE

BY CLAYTON COLLINS - POWER TO TREAD MINISTRIES

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## 1. Refusing to forgive someone

- “For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses” **(Matthew 6:14-15 NKJV)**.
- “Then Peter came to Him and said, “Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?” Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven. Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. And when he had begun to settle accounts, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. But as he was not able to pay, his master commanded that he be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and that payment be made. The servant therefore fell down before him, saying, ‘Master, have patience with me, and I will pay you all.’ Then the master of that servant was moved with compassion, released him, and forgave him the debt. “But that servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and he laid hands on him and took him by the throat, saying, ‘Pay me what you owe!’ So his fellow servant fell down at his feet and begged him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you all.’ And he would not, but went and threw him into prison till he should pay the debt. So when his fellow servants saw what had been done, they were very grieved, and came and told their master all that had been done. Then his master, after he had called him, said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?’ And his master was angry, and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him. So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses” **(Matthew 18:21-35 NKJV)**.

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Forgiveness is a decision not an emotion. We choose to forgive and verbally speak it out. We are free in the eyes of God when we do this. Working through negative emotions such as shame or anger that was caused by the offense can often be a process, but forgiveness is a choice we can make immediately.

## 2. Lack of true repentance from sin

- “Jesus answered them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin” **(John 8:34 NKJV)**.
- “He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil” **(1 John 3:8 NKJV)**.
- “The behavior of the self-life is obvious: Sexual immorality, lustful thoughts, pornography, chasing after things instead of God, manipulating others, hatred of those who get in your way, senseless arguments, resentment when others are favored, temper tantrums, angry quarrels, only thinking of yourself, being in love with your own opinions, being envious of the blessings of others, murder, uncontrolled addictions, wild parties, and all other similar behavior. Haven’t I already warned you that those who use their ‘freedom’ for these things will not inherit the kingdom realm of God” **(Galatians 5:19-21 TPT)**!

We must repent and turn away from all willful and habitual sin in order to receive and maintain deliverance!

## 3. Ungodly soul ties and immoral relationships

- “Do not be deceived: ‘Evil company corrupts good habits’” **(1 Corinthians 15:33 NKJV)**.
- “Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an

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unbeliever? And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: 'I will dwell in them And walk among them. I will be their God, And they shall be My people. Therefore Come out from among them And be separate,' says the Lord. 'Do not touch what is unclean, And I will receive you. I will be a Father to you, And you shall be My sons and daughters,' says the Lord Almighty" **(2 Corinthians 6:14-18 NKJV)**.

- "Make no friendship with an angry man, And with a furious man do not go, Lest you learn his ways And set a snare for your soul" **(Proverbs 22:24-25 NKJV)**.

Some relationships need to be severed! In some cases, such as with immediate family members, it may be impossible to sever the relationship completely. However, certain boundaries must be put in place and certain dynamics of the relationships must change if the person is to walk in freedom.

#### **4. Continued occult practices or occult objects that are still in their possession**

- "This became known both to all Jews and Greeks dwelling in Ephesus; and fear fell on them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was magnified. And many who had believed came confessing and telling their deeds. Also, many of those who had practiced magic brought their books together and burned them in the sight of all. And they counted up the value of them, and it totaled fifty thousand pieces of silver. So the word of the Lord grew mightily and prevailed" **(Acts 19:17-20 NKJV)**.

You must make a complete break with the occult or any non-Christian religion or spiritual philosophy, both in practice and in belief. And you must get rid of and destroy every object that would link you to those spiritual practices if you desire to close all doors to the demonic. (Also, any drug paraphernalia or pornographic material should be dealt in a similar manner.)

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## 5. **Mental illness and untreated mental health issues**

In my experience, many mental health issues have some level of demonic attachment to them; however, not all mental illness is caused by demons.

There are many causes of mental health issues. In many cases, it takes time, patience, and much love and understanding to find healing and freedom.

### **Some possible causes of mental illness:**

- Demons are responsible for some mental illness. In these cases, casting out the demons can bring immediate and permanent healing! “Then they came to Jesus, and saw the one who had been demon possessed and had the legion, sitting and clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid” (**Mark 5:15 NKJV**).
- Some mental illness is caused by chemical imbalances in the brain. In these cases, professional therapy and medication can bring much relief.
- Some mental health issues are emotional responses to trauma and the stresses of life. The ministry of inner healing can bring much freedom. Professional counseling and therapy may be needed.
- Some mental health issues and developmental disabilities are caused by birth defects.
- Some mental health issues are due to physical brain injuries. Car accidents, drug and alcohol abuse and physical violence are a few examples of things that could damage the physical organ of the brain.

Note in all the above cases, although demons may not be the PRIMARY CAUSE of the issues, **DEMONS ARE LIKELY INVOLVED**, through what I refer to as demonic exploitation! Demons are drawn to human suffering, much like a shark is drawn to blood in the water. They cannot help but take every opportunity to make a bad situation worse. So therefore, I believe deliverance can and should be part of

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the treatment plan in most cases. Though it may not bring 100% healing it should improve the situation in my opinion!)

I DO 100% BELIEVE THAT REGARDLESS OF THE SOURCE OF ANY ISSUE whether demonic, emotional, or physical, that the prayer of faith and the name of Jesus can bring complete and permanent healing! We should pray for healing and deliverance and believe for miracles in every case. While at the same time encouraging those we are ministering to, to continue any medication and to follow the advice of their therapist or doctor until they have received medical confirmation of their healing!

I AM BY NO MEANS AN EXPERT on mental health. I'm simply sharing some nuggets of wisdom I've gathered through the years of ministering to people.

(I strive to fulfill the great commission which includes casting out demons and ministering to the sick believing for miracles! I leave all medical and psychological advice to the professionals in that field and I am thankful for all who work to alleviate human suffering!)

## **6. Lack of dealing with mental strongholds and failure to change negative habits**

- “For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ” **(2 Corinthians 10:4-5 NKJV)**.
- “For although we live in the natural realm, we don’t wage a military campaign employing human weapons, using manipulation to achieve our aims. Instead, our spiritual weapons are energized with divine power to effectively dismantle the defenses behind which people hide. We can demolish every deceptive fantasy that opposes God and break through every arrogant attitude that is

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raised up in defiance of the true knowledge of God. We capture, like prisoners of war, every thought and insist that it bow in obedience to the Anointed One” (2 Corinthians 10:3-5 TPT).

We must cast out demons, but we must also pull down strongholds. A stronghold is a house of thoughts and habits on the inside of our soul (this is the place where I believe demons dwell inside of a person). Pulling down strongholds is a process that involves changing the way we think and believe. This is done through prayer, study of God’s Word, godly counsel, and sometimes inner healing. This takes discipline, determination, and time! If this does not become a way of life, any relief that is gained through someone else’s praying for us or ministering to us will be temporary at best.

**7. The person has an unhealthy obsession with the demonic and are (many times unconsciously) drawing demons to attack and demonize them by expecting those demonic attacks**

The group of people that I am describing are a small minority in my experience. Nevertheless, if you minister deliverance any length of time you will probably run into this situation at some point. Most people in the west are not obsessed with demons; in fact most churches believe things such as demons aren’t real; Christians can’t have demons; we shouldn’t talk much about demons or do deliverance openly because it glorifies the devil and gives demons more attention than they deserve; and that demons are mainly active overseas, in Africa, Asia, and the Middle East but there is not much demonic activity in the west.

Again, the people that I am about describe to you are few and far between; however, at the time of writing this lesson I’ve been doing deliverance for 17 years. I’ve ministered in thousands of deliverances in many different countries. I would estimate I’ve ran into this situation a few dozen times.

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A person may receive what appears to be a powerful deliverance, yet they will return continually for more ministry, (sometimes days or hours after their last session). They will seem to be able to describe their problems and the demons that they presumably have in great detail.

They may say things such as yesterday you cast out the spirit of Jezebel, but I know that today the spirit of Leviathan is manifesting in my life. (those are real names of demons though most people only know those names if they have been involved in satanism, the occult, or have ministered deliverance to others).

It's also true that some cases require multiple deliverances; however, when approached by this person something in your spirit will just seem off! Something is not quite right. You may oblige their request and minister deliverance to them once again, only to find out that the same pattern is repeated almost continually!

Again, this person will often describe their problem in great detail and seem to be all educated and have extensive knowledge about the demonic. Perhaps they have studied deliverance and learned about demons and have become what I refer to as a spiritual hypochondriac! This can be dangerous because even if they do not have the particular demons that they believe they have (at least initially) they can eventually invite those demons and become demonized or possessed through continually thinking and confessing that they have those demons! It's best to discontinue the ministry of deliverance to this individual at least for the time being and focus on other aspects of ministry.

This must be done delicately (but firmly in some cases) because the person often has deep emotional wounds and rejection. You do not want to further injure them by being harsh or making them feel foolish.

Make sure they are a part of a church or faith community with healthy pastoral covering and oversight.

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Begin to explore the spiritual and emotional life of the person and deal with strongholds of the mind (or point them in the direction of someone who can). Explore the possibility of mental illness and encourage proper clinical care if needed. After these measures are put into place another deliverance session may be in order (make sure it is done in addition to the above measures and not as a replacement for them).

## 8. **The person is oppressed by strong or clever demons that were able to resist being cast out in the initial deliverance session. In these cases, multiple deliverance sessions can be required.**

- “For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places” **(Ephesians 6:12 NKJV)**.
- “Your hand-to-hand combat is not with human beings, but with the highest principalities and authorities operating in rebellion under the heavenly realms. For they are a powerful class of demon-gods and evil spirits that hold this dark world in bondage” **(Ephesians 6:12 TPT)**.
- “Now when the Pharisees heard it they said, “This fellow does not cast out demons except by Beelzebub, the ruler of the demons” **(Matthew 12:24 NKJV)**.
- “Then he goes and takes with him seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter and dwell there; and the last state of that man is worse than the first. So shall it also be with this wicked generation” **(Matthew 12:45 NKJV)**.
- “They have as king over them, the angel of the abyss (the bottomless pit); in Hebrew his name is Abaddon (destruction), and in Greek he is called Apollyon (destroyer-king)” **(Revelation 9:11 AMP)**.