

MIRACLE DELIVERANCE

In Defense of the True Deliverance Ministry

Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever!

"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against spiritual wickedness in high places" (Eph 6,10-12).

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Deliverance is a real need in the American Church today. However, there are also a lot kooks who claim to be deliverance ministers who are not!



This is what spiritual warfare is about. Jesus must be the center of a person's life. One must know Him from the power of the Word of God, because of His triumph, His people can win their war. Pat Holliday, *Demons Believe and Tremble* <http://www.miracleinternetchurch.com/ebooks>

The Deliverance ministry is a serious and supernatural work of the Lord Jesus Christ in a person's life. It is a most needed ministry in the American Christian Church today. This article is written by a man who is discerning the merits of the importance of the deliverance from the point of view of man who experienced it under the teachings and interpretations of the false ministers of the Third Wave Movement.

DECEPTION

The Holy Ghost inspired Apostle Paul warned us: “**Let no one deceive you,**” (2 Thess. 2:3). It is clear that Christians can be vulnerable to deception and we must not forget it. We must be on guard and protect ourselves against deceit. There is deception everywhere in the religious world. We must be alert.

* **Bob De Waay comments in blue**

** **Answers in black**

How Deliverance Ministries Lead People to Bondage

A Warning Against the Warfare Worldview

by **Bob DeWaay**

The Lord's bond-servant must not be quarrelsome, but be kind to all, able to teach, patient when wronged, with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition, if perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth, and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will. (2Timothy 2:24-26)

In 1977 I was in a ministry that specialized in inner healing and deliverance. People came to us from all over the country seeking release from hearing voices, addictions, emotional trauma due to past hurts and abuses, and many other forms of spiritual bondage. At the time our ministry was considered “cutting edge” in the world of spiritual warfare. Ours was a Christian community where people could come and live with other Christians to find healing.

First and foremost let me say, Biblical deliverance of casting out demons has nothing to do with the type of ministry described above. The inner healing and deliverance ministry was created by a woman Agnes Sanford which is a New Age teacher who claimed to be a Christian but had no such testimony of being born again.

- **Agnes Sanford ; New Age**
- “There is a departure from the faith but in the name of faith. Seducing spirits are being contracted, but here they don’t pose as “deeper levels of the “psyche,” or as “ascended masters,” but as Christ Himself! The practice of visualizing “Jesus,” (visualizing “Mary,” works just as well for Catholics) is being used in “Inner healing” and in order to enhance one’s prayer life or to gain a deeper insight into what Jesus taught. That the “Jesus” WHO APPEARS AND TAKE ON A LIFE OF IT’S OWN IS NOT THE LORD JESUS CHRIST but “seducing spirit” bringing “doctrines of devils” ... ” Mrs. Sanford’s autobiography, she writes of playing in the Temple of Buddha in China, and even climbing up into the Buddha’s folded legs ... she wondered if the idols had any power? “How could I know whether my parents knew the truth about them? What would happen if I myself were to worship the great Buddha? Would God smite me dead? ... So, in a spirit of high adventure, I decided I would just try it and see what happened.””I folded my

hands together, bowed before the serene gilded idol, who apparently paid me no attention whatsoever, and murmured “O-me-to-fu” as the monks did. 1 She then writes a most astounding paragraph that describes demon possession! She writes, “Nothing happened. Or did it? I wonder. For gradually there came to be within me another voice, sneering, despising, scorning, as I grew older there appeared two voices, one of which continually denied or derided the other one.”

- **Inner Healing**
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Pat Holliday, Ph.D.

Agnes Sanford ; New Age

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So, therefore to take the testimony of a man who got caught up in “EXORCISM” of the seventies and use it to cast aspersions on ALL deliverance ministries is just wrong. .Biblical deliverance does not involve exorcism... the Bible reveals that it was unbelieving Jews who were involved in exorcisms and tried to exorcise a man by using the name of Jesus after they witnessed Christian ministers casting out demons in a certain man. One third of the Lord Jesus’ ministry consisted of casting out demons; discernment of demons is one of the nine gifts of the Holy Spirit; the early church both discerned and cast out demons.

Jesus cast seven demons out of Mary Magdalene and she followed him for the rest of her life and was chosen to bring the greatest message that the world has ever heard. “He has risen.”

Jesus did not say, “just forgive them Mary, no, he drove those spirits of deceitfulness, infidelity, adultery, lust, perversions, etc.

Jesus’ command

Given to all to whom He commissions.

The twelve apostles Matthew 10:1.

The seventy Luke 10:1:1,19.

Every Believer.

“He said to them, ‘Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation . . . And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons . . .” Mark 16:15,17.

Knowing authority enables one to enter into spiritual warfare with faith to overcome. Each Christian must learn that he has power over any and every demonic strong man.

We as true believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, can bind and cast out demons.

“I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you,” Luke 10:19.

The believer in Christ has not only the spiritual ability of the Holy Spirit in him, but also the authority of the name of Jesus.

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given unto me, Therefore go . . .” Matthew 28:28.

Bob continues, About that time a woman from another state came to stay at our ministry center for a few days to receive prayer and deliverance. She had grown up in a family that was deeply involved in the occult and had been named after a Greek goddess. When she called us she was trying to get out of her occult bondage and was being attacked by evil spirits who did not want to let her go. They manifested themselves through her taunting us and making hissing sounds. We soon found out that the demons that tormented her were powerful and had no intention of leaving. Two of us took on the responsibility of ministering to her. After we had led her in some prayers, confronted some of the demons, and demanded them to leave in Jesus’ name, she found some relief.

The most dramatic event in our ministry to her came after one of our Tuesday night meetings. After most people had left she stayed for more prayer. Before we even got to her, she was taken over by a violent evil spirit. Her countenance changed, her voice altered, her face contorted and her hands became like claws. She let out a loud scream and charged at me, intending to gouge my face with her fingernails. As she screamed and raced across the room, I and the other man who had been ministering to her stood our ground and said, “Stop! In the name of Jesus.” When she got two feet from us she hit what seemed like an invisible wall and fell to the floor whimpering. We prayed with her and asked God to set her free.

We had encountered many cases of demonic manifestations in our ministry, but this was the most dramatic. As I look back on this incident now, what is most significant is not what happened that night, but what happened the next day. The next day she felt much better and asked to talk to us before leaving for home. She told me, “Bob, Satan is very scared of you. You have much power and authority.” What that statement and the event that led to it meant to me then was very different from how I understand it now. The difference is due to the “warfare” worldview I held then and the “providential” worldview I hold now. The way we interpret events is determined by our worldview. In this article I will discuss exorcism from the perspective of each of these worldviews.

Bob’s testimony above of his use of the name of Jesus when he told the demon “To Stop! In the name of Jesus,” is a powerful testimony of the power of the name of Jesus... It is certainly not a reason to reject the deliverance ministry; however he rejected it, he says, because it created pride in him.

Sadly, the world has filled the church with false doctrines and unbiblical views of the deliverance ministry and the Christian Church. Bob was in false, doctrines of devils movement called the Inner Healing Movement which centered on false doctrines involving psychological regression techniques; emotional issues; and false religious doctrines. So, I agree with him that his “deliverance ministry” was not Biblically sound. It was absolutely doctrines of devils.”

However, to make blanket statements concerning the deliverance ministry or any other Christian ministry that is clearly shown in the Bible is very dangerous.

Millions are now demon possessed, both pastors and church members. Where can they find help, if you receive Bob’s testimony that the deliverance ministry is not for today.

Exorcism in the Warfare Worldview

This ministry of Spiritual warfare that Bob is talking about here concerns the teachings of C. Peter Wagner and others of the Third Wave Movement. It is a demonic movement of doctrines of demons. I personally have exposed this movement and it errors here.

Bob says....The warfare worldview holds that the battle between good and evil, God and Satan, is played out in human history, with an uncertain outcome. By uncertain I mean that God does not sovereignly determine the outcome.¹ There are casualties in this battle. The battle to free individuals from spiritual bondage is carried on by people of faith who have learned the tools of battle and become mighty warriors for God. According to many who hold the warfare worldview, even the destiny of nations is in the hands of human spiritual warriors who will capture nations for the Kingdom of God. My fondest hope in 1977 was that I would become one of these mighty warriors who would plunder Satan's kingdom on the field of battle.

So in that context I interpreted the woman's statement to mean that I was succeeding. At age 27 I had become a mighty warrior who was equipped to go to battle against anything Satan could throw at me. I was so charged up by that incident that I spent the next couple of years dealing with dozens of hurting people, many who were in horrible spiritual bondage. Day and night I was casting out demons, confronting the powers of darkness and helping people escape from the clutches of demons. That woman went back home and I do not remember hearing from her again. Others who lived closer, I ministered to time and time again over a period of years.

Bible deliverance ministry is to set captives free so that they can then serve Jesus Christ. Deliverance drives the demons out... bring the person into a commitment to Jesus... leads them to the Holy Ghost.... And then teach them the Word of God to be holy and build Christian Character...

He gave the power and authority His followers to go.

The name "Jesus" is the legal right of absolute authority.

His power is

"Far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come," Ephesians 1:21.

His power is above all power.

In order for a believer to be consistently led of the Holy Spirit, and thereby, be continually sowing to the Spirit, they must of necessity, be filled with the Spirit.

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Truth.

"Thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!" (1 Cor. 15:57).

"You are to cling to the Lord your God... for the Lord your God is He who fights for you, just as He promised you. So take diligent heed to... love the Lord our God." (Josh. 23:5-11)

"Our God, wilt thou not judge them? for we have no might against this great company that cometh against us; neither know we what to do: but our eyes are upon thee. 13 And all Judah stood before the LORD, with their little ones, their wives, and their children." 2 Chron 20:12-13,12.

According to many exorcists who embrace the warfare worldview, demons possess their victims because they have discovered a “right” to do so. For example, a person might be under an unknown curse that gives the demon a right to torment him or her. Famous exorcist Bob Larson explains how he sees this working: “Curses are exacting, legal arrangements of the spirit world. Just like human contracts contain fine print and carefully crafted language, satanic curses are often filled with minutia that require detailed voiding.”² To get free requires the counselor to ferret out the exact wording and nature of the curse and then formulate a renunciation to break it.³

Demons have no legal rights over a Christian that is born again; I believe that this merry go around type of deliverance is demonic in its self. Jesus said,

18	<p>Luk 4: The Spirit ⁴¹⁵¹ of the Lord ²⁹⁶² [is] upon ¹⁹⁰⁹ me ¹⁶⁹¹, because ¹⁷⁵² he hath anointed ⁵⁵⁴⁸ me ³¹⁶⁵ to preach the gospel ²⁰⁹⁷ to the poor ⁴⁴³⁴; he hath sent ⁶⁴⁹ me ³¹⁶⁵ to heal ²³⁹⁰ the brokenhearted ^{4937 2588}, to preach ²⁷⁸⁴ deliverance ⁸⁵⁹ to the captives ¹⁶⁴, and ²⁵³² recovering of sight ³⁰⁹ to the blind ⁵¹⁸⁵, to set ⁶⁴⁹ at ¹⁷²² liberty ⁸⁵⁹ them that are bruised ²³⁵²,</p>
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Deliverance is for the purpose of translation of a person out of the kingdom of darkness and into the kingdom of light. When a person is born again, filled with Holy Ghost

When I was a deliverance counselor holding the warfare worldview it was my job to find out what may have given the demons the right to enter and to close that entrance. I taught that if the demons found a legal “right” to stay they would, and that if they had no legal right, they would try to stay anyhow because they are nasty deceivers.

If Bob had been Biblically sound, he would have known there are no scriptural foundations for such a weird teaching... He was following after doctrine hatched up by men.

Those who hold to this view of the spiritual universe see the battle as being fought on all levels. On the level of the heavenlies, they enlist troops of “prophetic intercessors” to identify, bind and cast down rulers over cities and nations.⁴ Warriors are enlisted to take spiritual control over cities by conducting prayer walks around areas of the city. In the warfare worldview, the deliverance counselor is the foot soldier who does hand to hand combat on the spiritual battlefield. He or she fights the forces of darkness that have captured individual souls. In 1977 I was a deliverance counselor and had just found out through a powerful experience and the testimony of one who had been deeply in Satan’s camp that I was a powerful warrior whom Satan feared. My sails were set to spend the rest of my life as a career spiritual military man freeing captives. Exorcism was where the battle got personal and I was chosen to be there.

The above teaching is pure C. Peter Wagner teachings.... Third Wave is another gospel, another Jesus, by another spirit (Kundalini). 2 Cor 11:4 For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him. KJV

To continue to improve in my counseling ministry, I read the books of those who had more experience. This increased my understanding of how demons worked. Many of the people I counseled, however, continued to struggle with demons in spite of many exorcism sessions. This required fine tuning and the development of further strategies. Battles are never easily won. In a war there are always set backs. Some of the teachings I used were very Biblical: repentance, forgiveness, the study of God’s

word, and getting one's self in right relationship to the body of Christ. Also, my counseling involved helping people make wise choices in their lives.

Keep remembering, there is no such thing as Christian exorcisms. Still explaining his ministry from Third World teachings....

During those years I visited people in the lock up wards of most of the mental hospitals in our area. I had ministered to so many troubled people that one time when I went to the largest lockup ward in our county, I knew three of the patients personally.

**Nothing wrong with visiting the sick in mental hospital, I don't understand his point here...
Mark 16:18, They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. KJV**

Secret Spiritual Laws

During those years of believing the warfare worldview, I noticed that the same people kept having the same problems. As part of my study to fine tune my approach I read a book written by a famous Christian that claimed to be given to him by divine revelation. In the book he said that there are spiritual laws that govern the spirit world. One of these has to do with "passivity." Demons are able, according to him, to move in and take over when a person has a passive will.⁵ For a long time I incorporated this "truth" into my counseling, figuring that passivity was why these people kept falling back into demonic bondage. I worked out techniques for people to use to strengthen their passive wills so that the demons would no longer be able to influence them. *I no longer believe that what I was doing is valid.*

The Bible clearly shows that the remedy for spiritual sickness is repentance from sins and turning to Jesus Christ. You have to read the Bible to discover the proper way to minister to people.... Not follow the teachings of men that do not line up with the scripture.

This type of teaching is still around. Bob Larson writes, "If the core of a person's identity is strong willed, it seems harder for a demon to take over, no matter what that person does."⁶ In this scheme of things, the human will is crucial: "I always tell those bound by demons to call upon that small portion of their will that is not dominated by the devil."

Again Bob talks about the influence over his decisions as coming from the actions of a man, instead of the truth of the Word of God.

Bob Larson is a flakey showman who long ago left the foundations of the Word of God... He chases money, using demons to bring poor captives that should be able to find a church and a valid minister to help them out of darkness.

The problem I saw was this: "passive" people seemed to be not strong willed by nature — no process changed that. They continued to feel oppressed by demons and lamented their inability to overcome "passivity." At the time I did not realize that by telling people their will had to be stronger, I was throwing gas on the fire. The warfare worldview had led me so far astray that I did not see the relevance of the simplest of Scriptures, "*blessed is the man who trusts in God . . . cursed is the man who trusts in man*" (**Jeremiah 17: 5, 7**).

This is the Key. Jesus is Lord. It's not the people are "passive" but they are spiritual weak when they have been under the powers of the demons. They must be taught the Word of God and how to live in the new kingdom of God.

Christians must be prepared and equipped for spiritual warfare.

From the earliest times men wore and used devices for the protection of the body in battle. the apostle Paul spoke of the armor in a figurative sense, with reference to righteousness as a protection to the follower of God against the assaults of evil or temptation. They take upon themselves the whole armor of God, Helmet, Salvation; Breastplate, Righteousness; Girded Loins, Truth; Shod Feet; Shield, Faith, (Eph. 6:13-17). Shows what wonderful provisions' God has made for His warriors.

Evidently the people that were being delivered were being improperly taught by these false brethren.

According to the theory I taught, the "spiritual law" of the universe is such that passive wills get demonized, even if one is a Christian. To keep free one must gain a strong will. A person could not trust God for freedom unless the person had a strong enough will; otherwise God's hands were tied by the spiritual law He had created.⁸

The free will of the person occurs when they repent and submit to the Lord Jesus. John 8:36-- If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed. KJV

Well, why not blame the person seeking for help? Bob Larson could never be wrong, right?

Christians must be on the defensive (Matt. 26:41).

1. You must be anointed! (Matt. 3:16), You must fast! (Matt. 4:2).
2. You must quote the Word! (Matt. 4:4, 7, 10).
3. You must command the devil! (Matt. 4:10).
4. You are the one that has to drive the devil to flight, (Jam. 4:7).

Bob Larson writes, "The will of the victim is the spiritual battleground on which the war of exorcism is fought. The slightest reluctance can mean defeat."⁹ So where is our hope — in our own will? Larson says of one of his clients, "Her initial unwillingness to admit what happened gave the demons legal grounds for remaining."¹⁰

Again, Larson seems to have lost any kind of Bible understanding of the Word of God... Deliverance simply depended upon the spiritual power over the demons and the power of the minister. It does not depend on the any power from the possessed person... They have no power and are weak without understanding. You are the one that is suppose to set the captives free. The demons are not going if you have no power or understanding of Who Jesus is and that demons must obey His name.

Jesus said in (Matt. 12:23-33). Satan is not going to allow anyone to destroy his work without putting up very strong counteraction. His control must first be neutralized before Christians can release his captives. Jesus asks this penetrating question, "how can anyone enter a strongman's house and carry off his possession unless he first ties up the strongman?"

Then Jesus told us that we could enter his house. (Matt. 12:29). The King James Bibles reads, "*bind the strongman.*"

Indeed, binding the strong man is the first basic PRINCIPLE of spiritual warfare.

In fact, before any warfare opposing powers and principalities and wicked rulers and evil spirits can be won to release the nation, cities, individual, family, the strongman must be defeated, (Matt. 18: 18. 19. 20).

Once Satan's power is bound, Jesus enters freely enters into his house and carries off Satan's possessions.

The territory is delivered and Satan loses control.

The Greek word for spoil occurs in two forms, *Diapazo* and *harapzo*, which means "an intensive spoiling, plunder and snatching away."

In (Lk. 11-22), the Greek word *Skulon*, conveys "arms stripped from a foe." Putting it simply, Satan is stripped of his weapons, (Lk. 11:21,22).

The Greek word *Deo* means literally ties or fasten, to arrest or paralyze. The Christian reclaims everything that he has stolen.

Another words, Christians aggressively binding the power of demons and prohibits them from the carry-forward their assignments.

(Matt. 9:32-33), "They brought to HIM a dumb man possessed with a devil (**demonized**). When the devil was cast out, the dumb spoke. The multitudes marveled, saying, "It was never so seen in Israel."

(Matt. 12:22), "Then was brought to HIM one POSSESSED WITH A DEVIL (**demonized**), blind and dumb. HE healed him, so much that the blind and dumb man both spoke and saw."

(Matt. 17:14-21), "There came to HIM a certain man, kneeling down to HIM and saying, "LORD, have mercy on my son, for he is a LUNATIC and sore vexed; often he falls into the fire and often into the water. I brought him to YOUR disciples and they could not cure him. Then JESUS answered , "O faithless and perverse generation; how long shall I be with you? How long shall I endure you? Bring him here to ME." Jesus rebuked the DEVIL. He departed out of him. The child was cured from that very hour. Then the disciples took JESUS aside and said, "Why could we not cast him out?" Jesus said, "Because of your unbelief. I say to you, 'If you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, you shall say to this mountain, 'Remove here to there', and it shall move. Nothing shall be impossible to you. However, this kind goes not out, but by prayer and fasting."

(Mk. 1:32-34), "They brought to Him all who were sick and those who were DEMON-POSSESSED (demonized). The whole city was gathered together at the door. He healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons. He did not allow the demons to speak."

(Lk. 8:35-36), "They went out to see what was done, came to Jesus, and found the man, out of whom the devils departed, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed, and in his right mind. They were' afraid. They also, who saw it, told them by what means he was POSSESSED OF THE DEVILS (demonized) was **healed**."

Evidently we need a spiritual "lawyer" to figure out the spiritual contracts of the universe by which the demons operate, and the laws that apply. In the warfare worldview the battle is between humans and wicked spirits. The humans are at a huge disadvantage because the spirits have been navigating the spirit world for thousands of years and only they know all the "rules." The exorcist must query the demons to find out needed information and then beat them at their own rules. Bob Larson forces demons to tell him the truth under threat of being punished by angels and sent to the pit (I had never thought of that strategy when I was a deliverance counselor). Having done so, he makes the demons tell him what he needs to

know to deliver the person. He gives this advice to those who would do exorcism: "Someone should be designated to keep a log of the information received while interrogating the demons. As the internal structure of the victim's demonic system is revealed, list the spirits according to their ranking, cite their right and occasion of entry, and note their legal ground for remaining."¹¹ How do we know this is reliable? — "The demons will be forced to give you this information because they must submit to the name of Jesus and His authority."¹²

If that's what he was taught, its lunacy.... The only thing demons have to submit to is the name of Jesus and they must leave if the person belongs to Jesus and has repented... You have no biblical authority to talk to them. The Bible forbids us to talk to demons. Same as Worley's teachings of demonic interrogation... no scriptural foundation for it.

When I believed the warfare worldview and did exorcisms, I believed that what I was doing was valid because the reality of demons manifesting themselves was so vivid and people were being set free in the name of Jesus. There were many who felt much better after the sessions. They came in miserable and left our ministry session with a sense of love and freedom.

Of course people feel better after casting out demons in the name of Jesus... However, it just the beginning. They have to submit to Jesus and the Word and fill themselves with the Word of God. The minister should be praying for them and teaching them the Word.

So I believed they were being helped. I do not doubt the sincerity of Bob Larson and others like him, nor do I doubt the reality of the stories. What I am questioning is whether the worldview that under girds their ministry is Biblical. Is it true that there is a whole unseen legal world that governs demons and other levels of Satan's hierarchy that must be discovered and exploited to gain victory over Satan? Is it true that we need trained exorcists who have this knowledge in order to see captives freed? Later I will tell you how my ministry changed for good when I came to doubt the premises that provided the basis for what I was doing.

Yes, we do need Biblically trained ministers who will do what Jesus did and free the captives of the devil... Remember the early church cast out devils too.

A more than one-third of Jesus' ministry was deliverance

"He went throughout all Galilee preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons," (Mk. 1:39).

"But JESUS noticed that a crowd [of people] came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, You dumb and deaf spirit, I charge you to come out of him and never go into him again. And after giving a [hoarse, clamoring, fear-stricken] shriek of anguish and convulsing him terribly, it came out...." (Mk. 9:24 and 25).

Notice, the above deliverance did not take hours, a week or a year.... The power of Jesus just overcame the powers of the demons.

Secret Knowledge and Deliverance

Those who hold to the warfare worldview claim that knowledge about Satan, his emissaries, and their hierarchical structure is important in winning the battle. This is true on all levels, from battling principalities over nations to casting demons out of individuals. For example, when I was in this movement we were seeking to purchase property in one of the suburbs here in the Twin Cities. Because of difficulties with the purchase, we decided to hold an all night intercessory meeting. During the middle

of the night, someone got a revelation that a principality called “Manitou” was ruling over the city, keeping us from buying the property. This principality supposedly ruled because Native Americans had practiced their religion there at one time. So we were instructed by our leaders that we needed to cast down the spirit of Manitou over the city so that we could claim it for God. The successful finishing of the purchase “proved” that our prayers had been effective which consequently reinforced the idea that we needed special revelations to cast down principalities over cities.

Third Wave teaching again.... Not the deliverance ministry.

When one holds the warfare worldview such practices make all the sense in the world. Everything one wants to accomplish is tied up in the complex interaction of curses, demons, principalities, and the legalities that control the spirit world. There is no part of life that does not operate in this realm. Individual exorcism is the micro levels of the battle, cities and nations the macro level. On every level it is necessary to gain knowledge if one wants to win battles. The necessary knowledge is usually the names of demons or principalities, the nature of the curse invoked, or the structure of the spiritual hierarchy in Satan’s kingdom.

Third Wave interpretation of Eph. 6.

Bob Larson tells about performing an exorcism when one of the demons was away on another mission and had been missed during the procedure.¹³ He learned to “lock out” these demons. Larson writes: “If I had ended the procedure prematurely, I would never have known about this spirit, and he would have come back later.”¹⁴

Purely crazy.

One might ask what role God plays in the warfare worldview. The answer is that He commissions us to the battle, equips us for the battle, and gives us the tools we need. God gives the exorcist knowledge and power for battle. However, it is up to the exorcist to use his toolbox to cast out the demons. The exorcist must use the tools properly or the demons will stay. For example, Larson tells how he taught a pastor why demons kept coming back: “You probably never found the gatekeeper demon. It didn’t matter how many demons you cast out, they don’t have to go to the pit because the gatekeeper kept the door open for them to return.”¹⁵ The arrangement and locations of the spirits are determined by the knowledge and ability of the exorcist. Larson claims the right to assign demons to the pit if he does everything right.

Again nutty... The Bible tells us why demons come back... It’s because the person is not filled with God, activity seeking him... Luke 11:24-26 When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest; and finding none, he saith, I will return unto my house whence I came out. 25 And when he cometh, he findeth it swept and garnished. 26 Then goeth he, and taketh to him seven other spirits more wicked than himself; and they enter in, and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first. KJV

What we must keep in mind is that the information needed to do effective spiritual warfare according to the warfare worldview is **not revealed**.

The devil or Satan is presented to us as a being who fights God and His work. (See Gen. 3:1; Rom. 15:22.) He is the “god of this world,” *who blinds the minds of the people to the truths of God’s Word* (2Tim. 4:4; Eph. 2:2). Having rebelled against God, he was cast out of heaven; then he caused man’s fall in paradise. Jesus calls him often as an “*angel of light*” (2Tim. 11:14), seeking the ruin triumphed over him at the Cross of Calvary (1Jn. 3:8) and in His resurrection, and he will finally be condemned and

destroyed (Rev. 20). There are many orders of demons and they strike people in diverse ways (see Matt. 12:22, 17:15-18; Lk. 12:16). Also, they bring false doctrine (ITim. 4:1-4), trying to seduce the elect (Matt. 24:24), oppressing (Acts 10:38), obsessing, and possessing people. They know Jesus, and acknowledge His power and tremble (Matt. 8:29). For them, hell is the final destination, as it is for Satan.

4

The Scripture reveals Him in 'power and authority,' **"And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to usward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, which he wrought in Christ when he raised him from the dead and set him at His own right hand in the heavenly places,"** (Eph. 1:10).

Eph 1:21-23---21 **Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: 22 And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, 23 Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.** KJV

Col 2:10 10 And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power: KJV

How wonderful! He gives the Believer us His Heavenly power!

"That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: 18 The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, 19 And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to usward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, 20 Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, 21 Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: 22 And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, 23 Which is his body, the fullness of him that filleth all in all," KJV

Our inheritance is that we have power over all Satan's power and we follow Jesus' example!

Jesus cast devils out. Mark, Matthew, and Luke - narratives and controversies center in on Jesus ability to cure those who were demon possessed. Only the gospel of John lacks this material.

Jesus is our model!

He cast out devils with His Word! (Matt. 8:16).

When devils were cast out, the dumb spake. (Matt. 9:32, 33).

One possessed with a devil. . . & (Jesus) healed him. (Matt. 22: 22).

I cast out devils by the Spirit of God. (Matt. 12:28).

He cast out many devils and suffered (**forbid them to speak**). (Mk.1:34-39).

With power and authority He commanded the devils. (Lk. 4:33-36).

Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit and healed the child. (Lk. 9: 42. See also Mk 5:1-15).

Jesus . . . (healed) all that were oppressed of the devil. (Acts 10:38); (See also Mk. 1:23 -17:7; 25:30; 9:17-27).

Mark has four incidents, (Mk. 1:23-28; 5: 1-20; 7: 24-30; 9:14-29).

Jesus entered the synagogue at Capernaum and began to teach, (Lk. 4:33-37).

When the Word of God is taught coupled with the power of the Holy Spirit, evil spirits will surface.

A man in the synagogue at Capernaum and had an unclean spirit.

He cried out, saying, ‘What have we to do with You, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are — The Holy One of God.’

What I mean is that it is neither found in God’s specific revelation (the Bible) nor in general revelation (what may legitimately be learned about the creation using our natural senses and rational mind). The knowledge that is required is secret knowledge.

Third Wave again

God has not revealed the names of demons over nations, cities, neighborhoods, or in demonized persons.

Actually the Bible does reveal certain places as being ruled over by demons. The Spirit of Jezebel ruled over that territory and she, a vessel for those demons had conquered the kingdom for Baal Worship.

The goddess Diana’ spiritual influence (controlling demons of Baal worship) ruled over Ephesus and all Asia... Acts 19:26 Moreover ye see and hear, that not alone at Ephesus, but almost throughout all Asia, this Paul hath persuaded and turned away much people, saying that they be no gods, which are made with hands: KJV

Demons ruling over places are shown throughout the Bible in the Old Testament and the New Testament.

The only source of such information is from some other type of revelation, either extra biblical divine revelation or revelation gained from demons themselves. Those who hold to the warfare worldview believe that it is their role to gain this knowledge and use it in the battle. Since the knowledge is “secret” it is of the realm of the occult. They have to somehow justify gaining forbidden knowledge in the name of helping the victims of evil spirits.

Again, Third Wave taught, the man exposing the error of false teaching should study the Word so that he knows what to expose.

Spiritual “Geek Squad”

In our city there is a company called “The Geek Squad” which will come to your home or place of business and solve your computer problems. They are very good at what they do and fix most hardware or software problems promptly. The reason they can do so is that they understand the nature of computers and computer software. They have technical knowledge. How is this possible? It is possible because humans created computers. Detailed manuals are available or computers can be reverse engineered by experts. Having complete knowledge of a computer is possible because computers are human creations.

No comment

The problem with the warfare worldview is that it has created the perceived need for a “Geek Squad” for souls. Not only must the demons and curses that are affecting the person be understood in detail, but the human soul must be also. The complex relationship between all the spiritual factors affecting the person and the nature and inclination of his or her soul, must be discerned and diagnosed by a skilled spiritual “technician” (they call themselves counselors) who can do the proper “fix.” Computers are complex, but they are exponentially simpler than the human soul and the spiritual world it inhabits.

But, the Bible does have scriptural answers to the problems of demon possession and human sickness... Problem, this person admits that he doesn't go there to find his answers.

For example, consider Bob Larson's description of his ministry to a person in bondage. The person in question had numerous “alters” (multiple personalities) as well as demonic bondage. This person with “dissociative identity disorder” had a demon called “Gatekeeper” who kept letting demons back in after they had been cast out.¹⁶ Larson describes the causes of such disorders and how he learned to speak to different identities within a person.¹⁷ He was dealing with a person who had alternate personalities called “Facilitator” and “Regulator.” Larson theorized that in this person demons could possess an “alter.”¹⁸ Larson explains:

In the realm of multiple personalities, there are good alters and bad alters. Good alters are the part of the person's consciousness that has acknowledged Christ as Savior. Bad, alters, for one reason or another, refuse to make that spiritual surrender.¹⁹

Simply crazy and pure heresy; Bob Larson has read a psychology book and taken terminology out and psychological explanations and put them as the highway to “Exorcisms” Psychology is based on man-made principles for help for the mentally impaired... Bob Larson's new type of deliverance ministry is a man- made theory for the spiritually captured and spiritual sick (those in need of a Savior and Deliver called Jesus Christ.)

He teaches his “Ministers” that pay him \$5,000 for minister's licenses', to talk to these “personalities” and lead them to Jesus... and let them stay if they don't want to “go to Jesus.” He is teaching these psychological teachings to little housewives and ordinary men who hardly know one scripture... through his ministry manuals, charging five grand. Pretty sick... These uncalled, untrained people are being loosed all over the country, calling themselves, “Deliverance Ministers.” Such darkness... It's a disgrace.

Jesus is going tell these ungodly men that are doing these evil things, “Depart from me ye workers of iniquity, I never knew you,” at the Judgment seat.

This complex situation leads to this task for the spiritual technician: “Our task is to sort through the maze to gain the assistance of the good alters. Then we can attempt to win the bad alters to God.”²⁰ Larson proceeded to have the alternate personality within his client help him identify the “dark ones” and went through an incredibly complex task of sorting out the demons and “alters” within this person. He even leads “Facilitator” to Christ.²¹ Larson uncovers hidden memories, legal ground that the demons had, and the names of obscure demons.²² This is one prayer he used to help the victim find freedom: “I command that angels of God search out and torment the spirit of pain. I bind Pain to Regulator the demon, and command that both of them experience all the torment they've put on Randall. I increase that torment seven times greater.”²³

The complexity of this process is mind-boggling. How can we be sure we are talking to demons, alters, or a real person? How does one know that a person can be saved but some of his alter egos still

need to accept Christ? Do we really have authority to command angels to torment demons so that they will decide to leave? The problem, in my opinion, is that the complexity Larson is describing is actually **under estimating** the complexity of the bondage and neediness of the human soul. The reason there can be no ultimately successful “Geek Squad” for souls is found in the difference between computers and humans. Computers were created by man, souls are created by God. Only God truly knows the heart of man. Only God knows the details of the spirit world and its interaction with the human soul.

The Bible tells us why no human spiritual technician can solve the problems of the inner person: *“The heart is more deceitful than all else and is desperately sick; Who can understand it? I, the Lord, search the heart, I test the mind” (Jeremiah 17:9, 10a)*. That only God knows the heart is a claim found throughout the Bible.²⁴ Those holding to the warfare worldview see a pressing necessity to train a cadre of spiritual technicians who can free human souls from the complex psycho-spiritual situation that torments them. These technicians by whatever name they are given must rely on techniques and knowledge that are not revealed in the Bible. Furthermore, they must gain information about human souls, secret curses, hidden or forgotten memories, demons, names of demons, relationships between demons, relationships between alter identities within a soul, and relationships between demons and alter identities. All of this is probably just the tip of the iceberg. The “Geek Squad” for souls has no reverse engineering capabilities, no detailed record of the process by which a soul came to be, and no objective tools for examining the soul and the spirit world it inhabits.

Not only this, but the spirit entities that they interview to gain information share at least one attribute with their leader Satan — **they are liars**. This does not stop the priests of the warfare worldview from interrogating demons for secrets. For example, Bob Larson tells this story:

Step by step I cornered the adversary until he could no longer resist. Before his final doom was pronounced, the demon looked at me quizzically. “Who taught you the rules?” he asked curiously. “What do you mean by that?” I asked. “The spiritual rules that determine what we can and can’t do. Someone from our side must have taught you. I’ve never met anyone who knows the rules as well as you do.”²⁵

It seems to me that if this warfare worldview is true and the claims of its technical “priesthood” are true, then we are all in very serious trouble with no clear way out. One must interview demons for years to figure out the “rules” since the information necessary to deal with them is neither revealed in Scripture nor accessible by any ordinary means.

In my case I was to run out of energy in trying to “tweak” the details of the warfare worldview to make it work. I would find out that what was necessary was a conversion to an entirely different view of the world God has created and governs. This conversion changed me from a spiritual technician to a gospel preacher. The rest of this article will describe how that happened.

The above is nutty

The deliverance ministry when done according to the Word of God is effective and produces wonderful spiritual results. There are many kinds of demons and they afflict people in various ways. Deliverance will stop the powers of demons and the person will be restored.

“Then was brought unto him one possessed with a devil, blind, and dumb: and he healed him, insomuch that the blind and dumb both spake and saw,” (Matt. 12:22). “Lord, have mercy on my son: for he is lunatick, and sore vexed: for oftentimes he falleth into the fire, and oft into the water. 16 And I brought him to thy disciples, and they could not cure him. 17 Then Jesus

answered and said, O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? how long shall I suffer you? bring him hither to me. 18 And Jesus rebuked the devil; and he departed out of him: and the child was cured from that very hour,” (Matt. 17:15-18).

Christians receive their authority from Jesus Christ and all authority is vested in Him.

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Delivered, powers of darkness, Spirit of God, Kundalini, Sorcery, Divination, Ouija boards, fortune-Third Wave, Satan Worship, parapsychology, false ministers, doctrines of demons. Bob DeWay, C. Peter Wagner, Third wave deliverance, Witchcraft,, doctrines of demons, another Jesus,,

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End Notes

1. Greg Boyd, *God at War*, (Downers Grove: Intervarsity, 1997) 13. Dr. Boyd defines the “warfare” world view: “Stated most broadly, this worldview is that perspective on reality which centers on the conviction that the good and evil, fortunate or unfortunate, aspects of life are to be interpreted largely as the result of good and evil, friendly or hostile, spirits warring against each other and against us.” The worldview that Dr. Boyd rejects he calls the “providential blueprint worldview.” 292. He categorically rejects the idea that the forces of wickedness are ultimately serving God’s greater purposes.

2. Bob Larson, *In the Name of Satan — How the forces of evil work and what you can do to defeat them*; (Nashville: Nelson, 1996) 109.

3. Ibid. 109, 110.

4. See *Critical Issues Commentary* Issue 48 “The dishonoring of God in Popular Spiritual Warfare teaching “for documentation of these teachings.

[HTTP://WWW.CICMINISTRY.ORG/COMMENTARY/ISSUE48.HTM](http://www.cicministry.org/commentary/issue48.htm)

5. Watchman Nee, *The Spiritual Man Vol. 3*, (New York: Christian Fellowship Publishers, 1968 – first published in 1928) 125. Nee identifies “passivity” as a key way demons influence Christians. His chapter “The Path to Freedom” is original material that is very similar to what is being taught today. Nee was teaching these things many decades before those who are doing so today. His influence on me during my years of doing deliverance was extensive.

6. Larson, 48.

7. Ibid. 80.

8. Op. Cit. Nee 90. “All actions are governed by laws . . . Should anyone fulfill the conditions for the working of evil spirits (whether he fulfills them willingly, such as the witch, the medium, or the sorcerer – or unwittingly, such as the Christian), then he has definitely given ground to them to work on him.” 90. As with modern versions of this teaching, the only way we can know about these laws is through extra-biblical revelations such as those provided in Nee’s book.

9. Larson 190.

10. Ibid.

11. Ibid. 208.

12. Ibid.

13. Ibid. 91

14. Ibid.

15. Ibid. 133.

16. Ibid.

17. Ibid. 135-137.

18. Ibid. 138.

19. Ibid.

20. Ibid. 138, 139.

21.Ibid. 141.

22.Ibid. 142 – 144.

23.Ibid. 142.

24.For example, consider 1Kings 8:39: “then hear Thou in heaven Thy dwelling place, and forgive and act and render to each according to all his ways, whose heart Thou knowest, **for Thou alone dost know the hearts of all the sons of men**” See also: Psalm 44:21; Acts 15:8; and 1John 3:20.

25.Larson, 205.

26.The process was immediate in that I followed the teaching of the verse from then on when I counseled people. It was slow in the sense that my conversion to the providential worldview was not complete until 1986 when I saw that my Arminian (free will) thinking was unbiblical and embraced God’s comprehensive sovereignty. This happened through a detailed study of the Book of Romans. The providential worldview holds that God is always in control of His own universe and is guiding it toward His decreed purposes (**Ephesians 1:11**).

27.The incident in the Gospels shows that Jesus is God and thus the One who will execute the final judgment: “*And behold, they cried out, saying, ‘What do we have to do with You, Son of God? Have You come here to torment us before the time?’*” (**Matthew 8:29**). Any human teacher who claims the power to do this is claiming something that is a divine prerogative and thus trying to be like God. This is sinful.

28.Neil T. Anderson, *The Bondage Breaker*; (Eugene: Harvest House, 2000) 30-33.

29.Ibid. 33.

30.Ibid. 199-252. These steps include prescribed prayers, confessions, renunciations, checklists, ancestral curses to be broken, etc. The implication is that the gospel fails to deliver us from curses, demons, or other spiritual maladies unless certain techniques are applied. Rather than the simple, Biblical means of grace, Anderson offers techniques and canned prayers that “work.” Thus he has adopted the warfare worldview and not the providential world view.

31.I explain the passage on this audio: DEMONS.MP3

32.Op. Cit. Larson, 191.

4. Defeated Enemies, Corrie Ten Boom, Christian Literature , Crusade, Fort Washington, Pennsylvania, 19034,