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I. INTRO: Deliverance from demonic activity and bondage is not a fringe doctrine.

- A. The first miracle Jesus performed after His baptism was casting out a demon from a man in the temple.
 - a. "Now there was a man in their synagogue with an unclean spirit. And he cried out, saying, "Let us alone! What have we to do with You, Jesus of Nazareth? Did You come to destroy us? I know who You are—the Holy One of God!" But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be quiet, and come out of him!" And when the unclean spirit had convulsed him and cried out with a loud voice, he came out of him. Then they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, "What is this? What new doctrine is this? For with authority He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey Him." -Mark 1:23-27 NKJV
 - b. Notice the man was in the sanctuary. He was not a gentile he was a Jew.
 - c. Some people struggle with whether a believer can have a demon but its very difficult to cast a demon out of someone who is not under the Lordship of Jesus.
 - d. Satan is a lawbreaker but God is not.
 - e. When a person is not under God's covenant, Satan has legal right to torment them (because of sin).
 - f. The best way to be delivered and offer deliverance is for the person to renounce his sin and turn to Jesus.
 - g. Then there is legal right to kick out the devil.
 - i. NOTE: It is possible to deliver someone *not* saved but they need to accept Jesus and "fill" their house with His Spirit or the spirits will return in a greater dimension leaving the person worse off in the end.
- B. It's part of the Great Commission.
 - a. "And He said to them, "Go into all the world and **preach the gospel** to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will follow those who believe: **In My name they will cast out demons**; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover." -Mark 16:15-18 NKJV
 - b. The proclamation of the gospel is meant to come with power. (This is not a self-help strategy—it is the very essence and power of the gospel!)
 - c. The gospel is power! (Romans 1:16)
 - d. Deliverance from demons should be a natural part of the proclamation of the gospel.
 - e. There. Is. Hope!!!

II. HOW TO BE DELIVERED

- A. There's a four step process we'll outline today:
 - a. <u>Recognize</u> the works of darkness
 - b. <u>Repent</u> from sin

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- c. <u>Renounce</u> the works of Satan
- d. <u>Receive</u> the work of Jesus
- B. The first step for deliverance is to first RECOGNIZE we need it.
 - a. The diagnosis comes before the cure.
 - b. No one in their right mind would go into surgery without first seeing an X-ray.
 - c. The Bible says that Satan is sly...He's not overt he's covert.
 - d. "The *thief* comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." -John 10:10 NIV
- C. What are demons and what do they do?
 - a. Demons are evil disembodied persons.
 - i. They are persons
 - ii. They don't have a body
 - iii. They are evil
 - iv. The Bible doesn't tell us much about where they come from but it does tell us what to do with them.
 - b. What demons do...
 - i. Entice us to sin
 - ii. Harass us
 - iii. Torment us
 - iv. Stop or limit our relationship and work for God
- D. What are the signs of demonic activity?
 - a. Sin cycles, addictions, compulsions
 - b. Recurring sicknesses
 - c. Various phobias, anxieties, nightmares, and panic attacks
 - d. Unwanted intrusive thoughts, confusion, doubt, and insanity
 - e. Suicidal thoughts, self-harm, history of early death in the family
 - f. Multiple accidents/accident prone
 - g. Hopelessness
- E. Sources of Demonic Activity
 - a. Transgression sins done to us or through us
 - i. All curses have their origin in disobedience or a breaking of God's laws.
 - ii. However, demonic activity can begin because of someone else's sin toward us.
 - iii. This list is not exhaustive but represents prevalent access points for demons in our culture.
 - 1. Pain and unforgiveness
 - 2. Sexual sin

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- 3. Occult involvement
- b. Iniquity deep rooted sin that is often is passed down generationally.
 - i. Generational curse is a recurring sin, sickness, or negative outcome that seems to trace itself through our family tree
 - ii. Examples:
 - 1. Divorce
 - 2. Anger
 - 3. Alcoholism
 - 4. Poverty
 - 5. Sickness
 - 6. Early death
 - 7. Mental/emotional instability
- F. The Cure The Blood of Jesus
 - a. "But he was pierced for our <u>transgressions</u>, he was crushed for our <u>iniquities</u>; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are **healed**. - Isaiah 53:5 NIV
 - b. Healed "rapha" to heal, bring to health.
 - c. The original mission of Jesus is still His mission today. He brings freedom!
 - i. "The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, **to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners**," -Isaiah 61:1 NIV
 - ii. This is our mission too! We are in SUBmission to HIS mission.
 - d. Tainted blood brought a curse but pure blood brings the cure.
 - e. The blood of Jesus is pure. It cancels the curse of sin.
 - f. The curse is cancelled at the cross!!!
 - g. "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and **the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin**. If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." -1 John 1:7-9 NIV
- G. How to be delivered:

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- a. Submit to the Lordship of Jesus.
 - i. This is giving Him ownership of your life.
 - ii. Some people only want Jesus as their savior but not their Lord.
 - iii. We must SUBMIT to God then RESIST the devil and he will flee.
- b. Forgive all who have hurt you.
 - i. If we do not forgive others God will not forgive us. (Matthew 6:15)
 - ii. Sometimes we cannot forgive in our own strength but Christ IN us can. Ask Him to help you forgive.
- c. Renounce the works of Satan.
 - i. Both blessings and cursings come from the power of the tongue.
 - ii. We need to RE-nounce the curses spoken against us.
 - iii. To confess means to "say the same thing as".
 - iv. We need to agree with God and disagree with the devil.
 - v. Declare with your mouth these demons are your enemies and that you don't want them any longer.
 - vi. Renounce your involvement with sin and commit yourself to obey Jesus.
- d. "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery." -Galatians 5:1 NIV