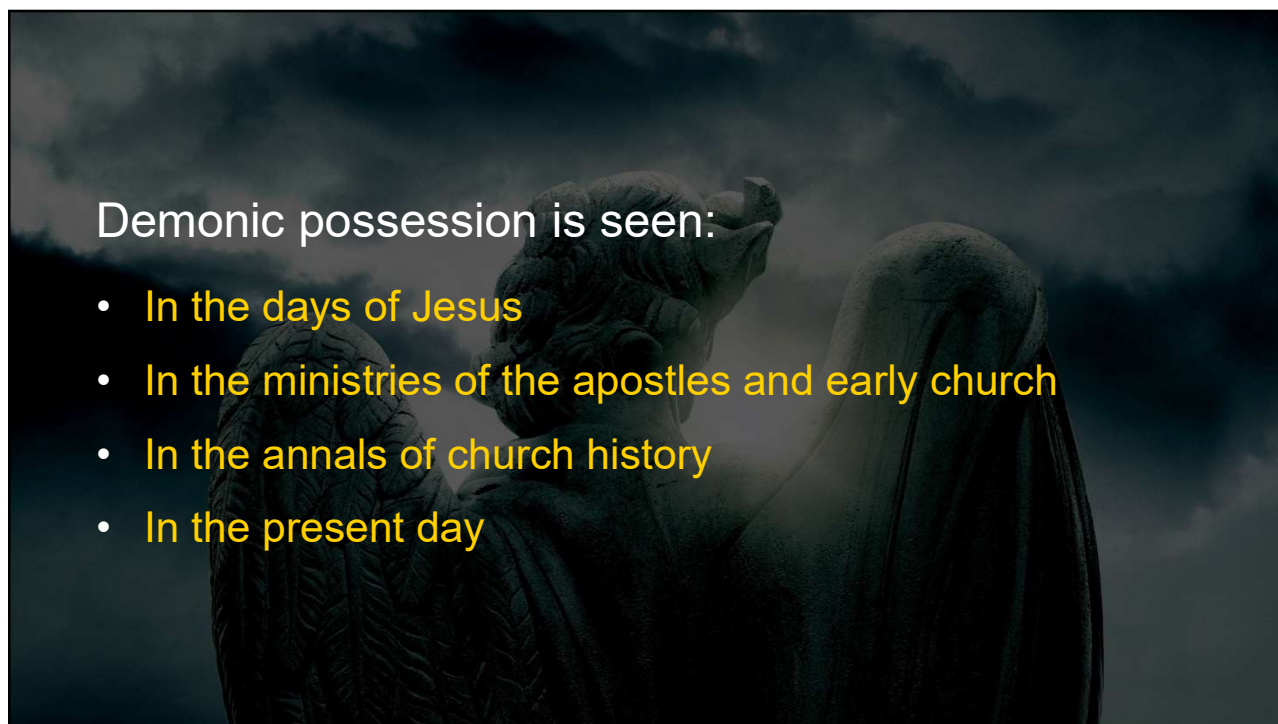




1



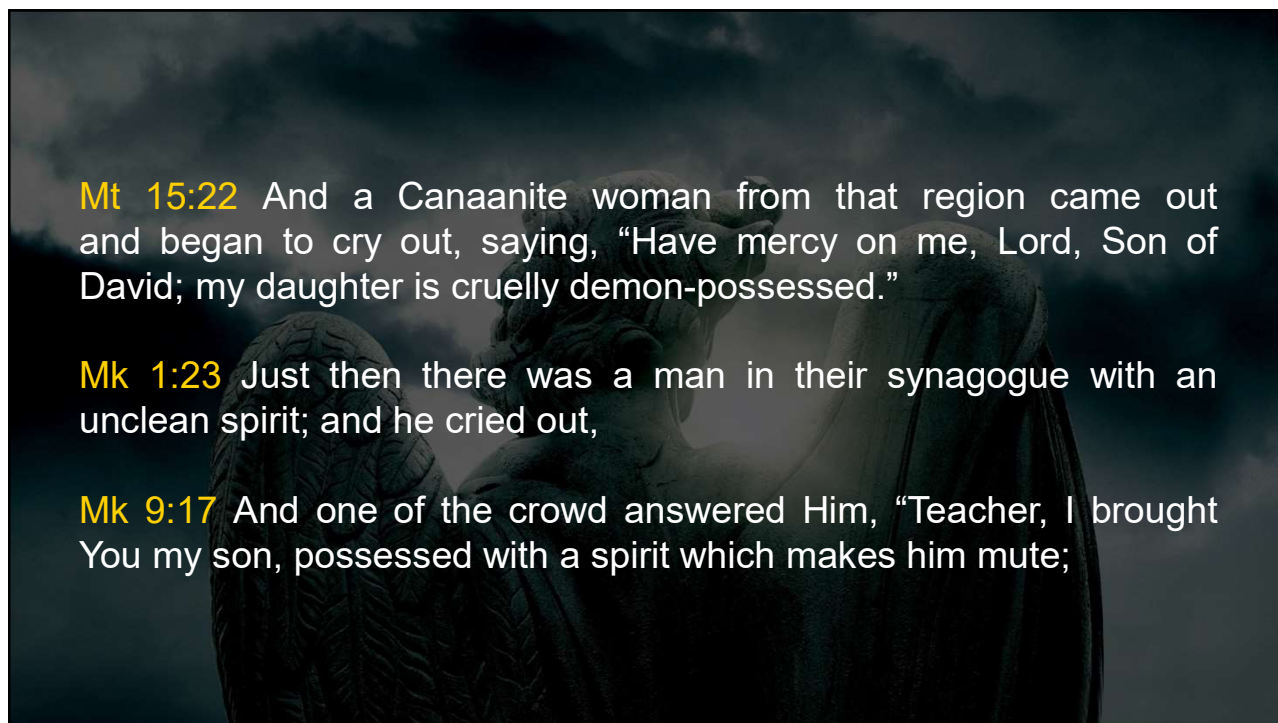
2



Demonic possession is seen:

- In the days of Jesus
- In the ministries of the apostles and early church
- In the annals of church history
- In the present day

3

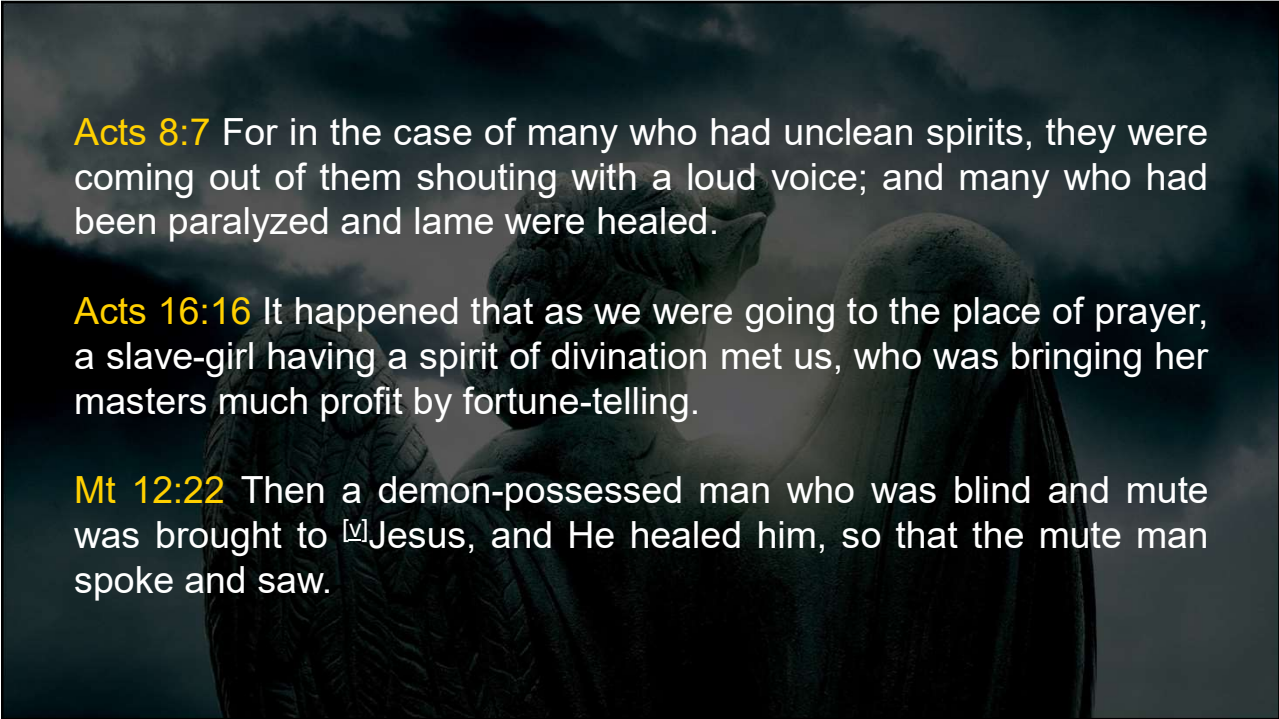


Mt 15:22 And a Canaanite woman from that region came out and began to cry out, saying, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is cruelly demon-possessed."

Mk 1:23 Just then there was a man in their synagogue with an unclean spirit; and he cried out,

Mk 9:17 And one of the crowd answered Him, "Teacher, I brought You my son, possessed with a spirit which makes him mute;

4

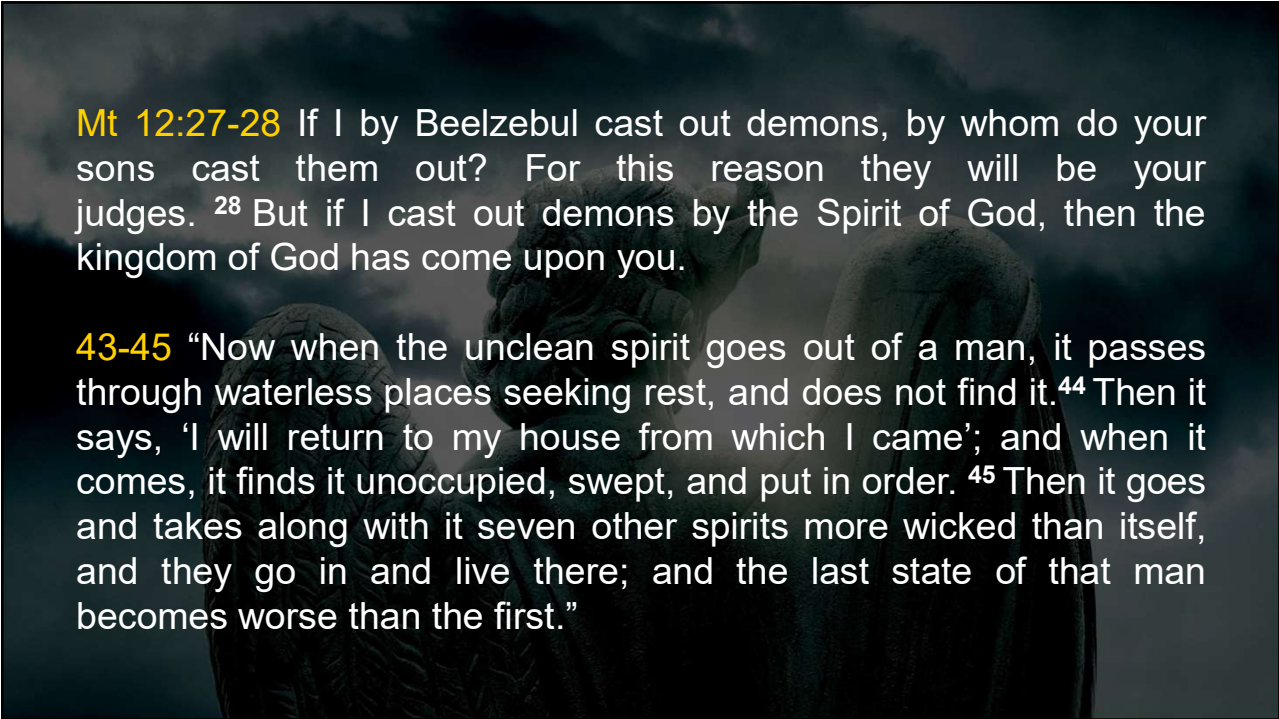


Acts 8:7 For in the case of many who had unclean spirits, they were coming out of them shouting with a loud voice; and many who had been paralyzed and lame were healed.

Acts 16:16 It happened that as we were going to the place of prayer, a slave-girl having a spirit of divination met us, who was bringing her masters much profit by fortune-telling.

Mt 12:22 Then a demon-possessed man who was blind and mute was brought to [\[M\]](#)Jesus, and He healed him, so that the mute man spoke and saw.

5



Mt 12:27-28 If I by Beelzebul cast out demons, by whom do your sons cast them out? For this reason they will be your judges. ²⁸ But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

43-45 “Now when the unclean spirit goes out of a man, it passes through waterless places seeking rest, and does not find it.⁴⁴ Then it says, ‘I will return to my house from which I came’; and when it comes, it finds it unoccupied, swept, and put in order. ⁴⁵ Then it goes and takes along with it seven other spirits more wicked than itself, and they go in and live there; and the last state of that man becomes worse than the first.”

6

1. Is there a difference in demonic possession and demonic oppression?

“Demon influence, even in its most severe forms, does not manifest the same abject domination by evil spirits that so saliently characterizes actual possession. There is no blacking out of consciousness, no demonized state, no usurpation of the body as a mere tool of the inhabiting demon, no speaking with another voice and the projection of another personality through the victim.”

Merrill Unger, *Demons in the World Today*, p. 113

7

- Satan seeks to get an advantage over us

Lk 22:31 “Simon, Simon, behold, Satan has demanded permission to sift you like wheat;

2 Cor 2:11 so that no advantage would be taken of us by Satan, for we are not ignorant of his schemes.

8

- **Satan was even able to hinder Paul**

2 Cor 12:7 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 torment me – to keep me from exalting myself!

1 Thess 2:18 For we wanted to come to you – I, Paul, more than once – and yet Satan hindered us.

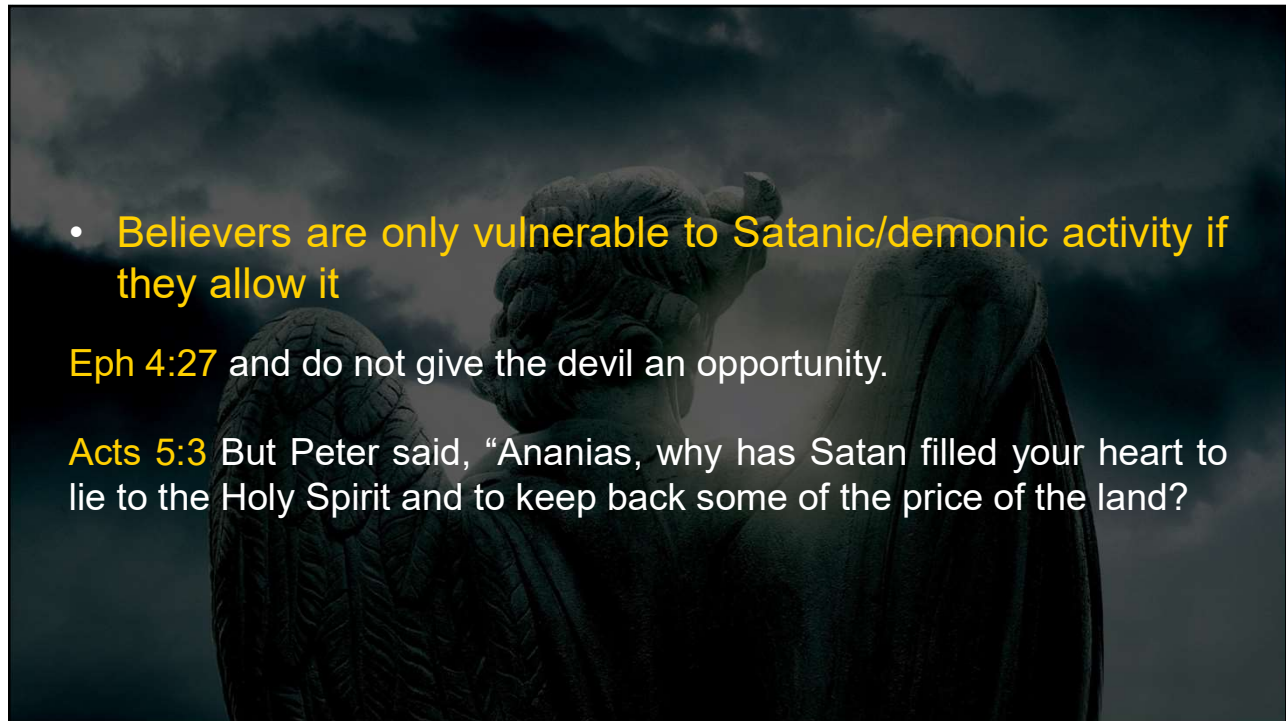
9

- **Demons can oppress wayward believers**

1 Cor 5:5 I have decided to deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of his flesh, so that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.

1 Tim 1:20 Among these are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I have handed over to Satan, so that they will be taught not to blaspheme.

10

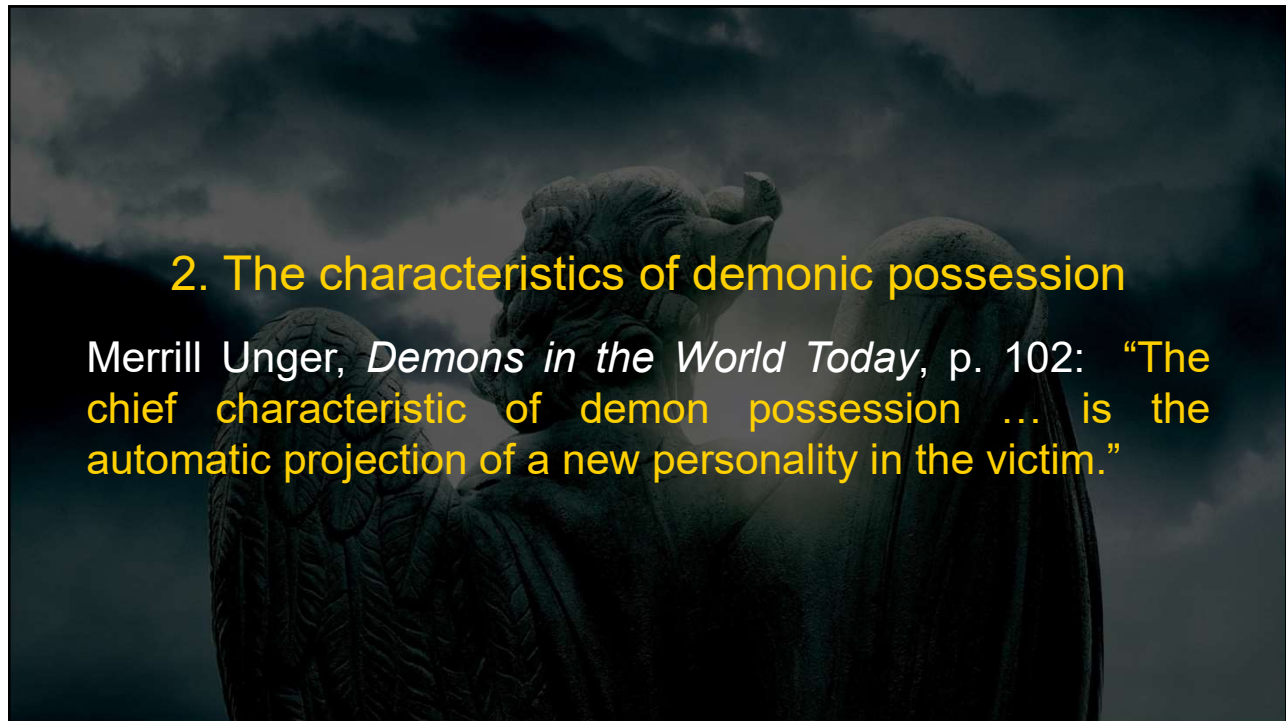


- Believers are only vulnerable to Satanic/demonic activity if they allow it

Eph 4:27 and do not give the devil an opportunity.

Acts 5:3 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?"

11



2. The characteristics of demonic possession

Merrill Unger, *Demons in the World Today*, p. 102: "The chief characteristic of demon possession ... is the automatic projection of a new personality in the victim."

12

Gadarene man in Mk 5:1-19

- **Unusual physical strength**

(3) and he had his dwelling among the tombs. And no one was able to bind him anymore, even with a chain;

- **Paroxysms or fits of rage**

(4) because he had often been bound with shackles and chains, and the chains had been torn apart by him and the shackles broken in pieces, and no one was strong enough to subdue him.

- **Resistance to spiritual things**

(7) "What business do we have with each other"

13

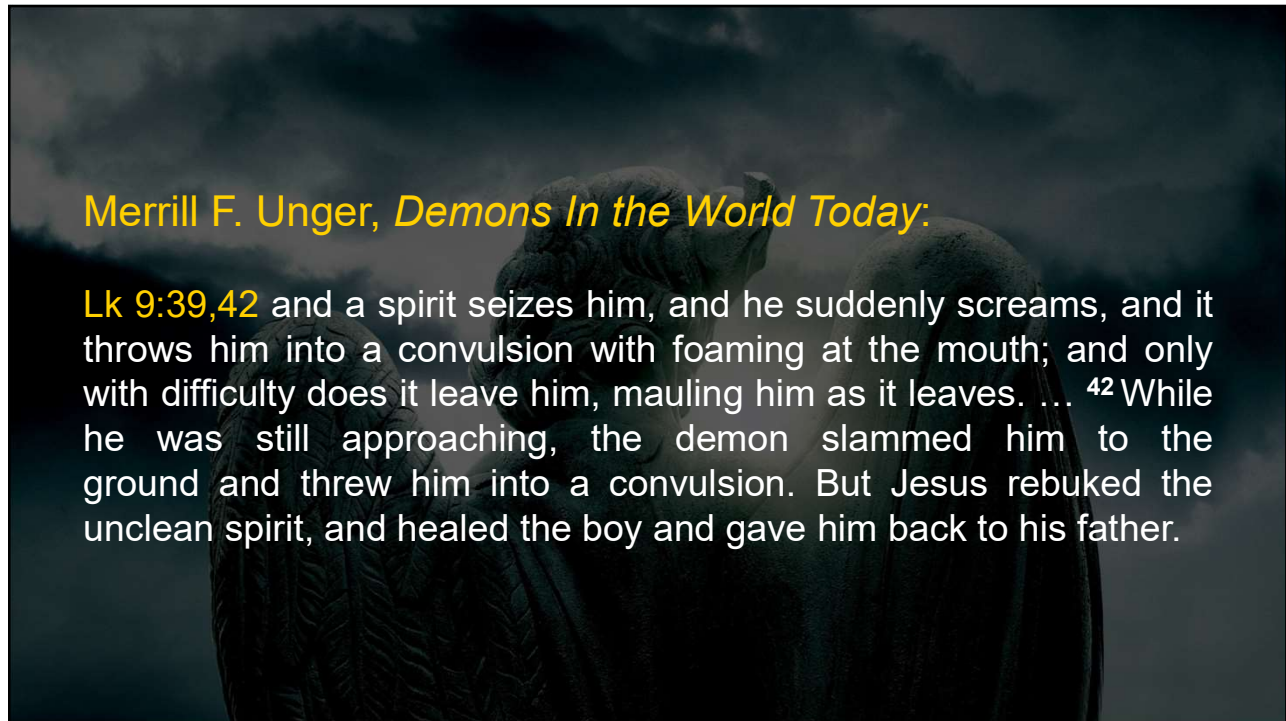
- **Excessive senses/clairvoyance**

(7) "Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I implore You by God, do not torment me!"

- **Altered voice**

(9) And he *said to Him, "My name is Legion; for we are many."

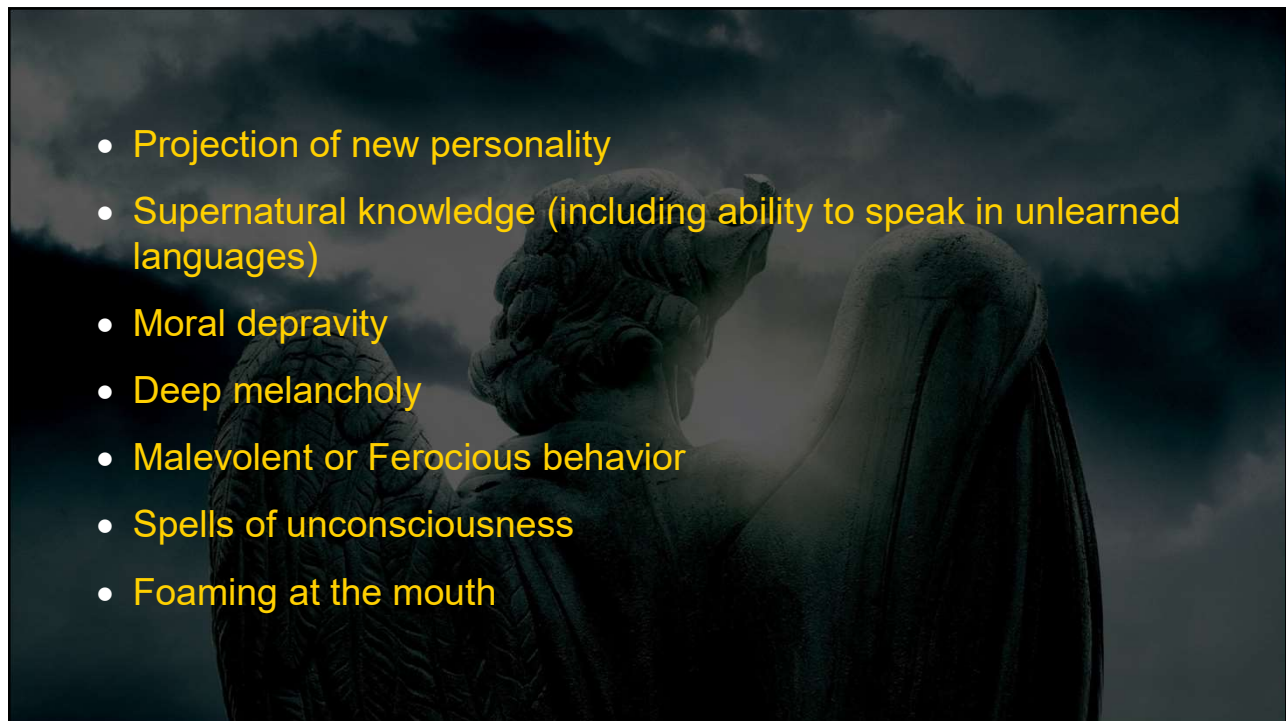
14



Merrill F. Unger, *Demons In the World Today*:

Lk 9:39,42 and a spirit seizes him, and he suddenly screams, and it throws him into a convulsion with foaming at the mouth; and only with difficulty does it leave him, mauling him as it leaves. ... 42 While he was still approaching, the demon slammed him to the ground and threw him into a convulsion. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, and healed the boy and gave him back to his father.

15



- Projection of new personality
- Supernatural knowledge (including ability to speak in unlearned languages)
- Moral depravity
- Deep melancholy
- Malevolent or Ferocious behavior
- Spells of unconsciousness
- Foaming at the mouth

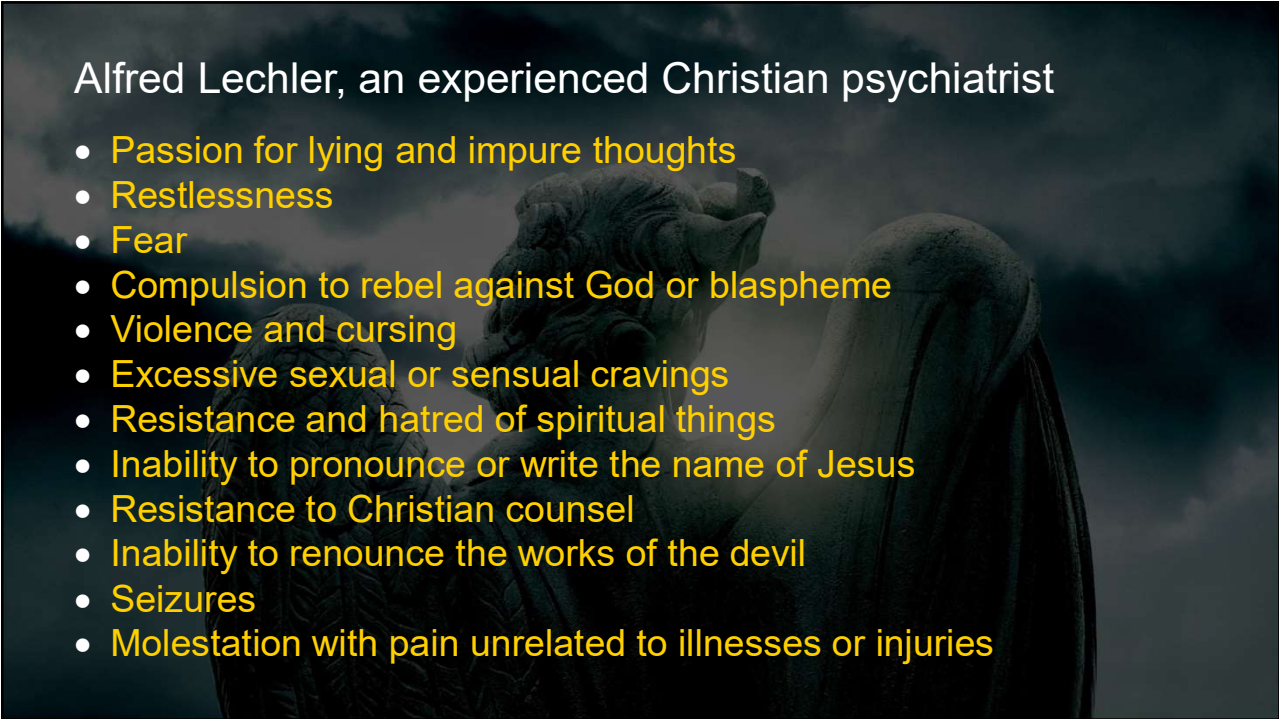
16



Kurt E. Koch, *Occult Bondage and Deliverance* (German theologian)

- Resistance to prayer or bible reading
- Falling into a trance during prayer
- Negative reaction to the name of Jesus

17



Alfred Lechler, an experienced Christian psychiatrist

- Passion for lying and impure thoughts
- Restlessness
- Fear
- Compulsion to rebel against God or blaspheme
- Violence and cursing
- Excessive sexual or sensual cravings
- Resistance and hatred of spiritual things
- Inability to pronounce or write the name of Jesus
- Resistance to Christian counsel
- Inability to renounce the works of the devil
- Seizures
- Molestation with pain unrelated to illnesses or injuries

18

3. The causes for demon possession

“In the great majority of cases, possession is doubtless to be traced to yielding voluntarily to temptation and to sin, initially weakening the human will, so that it is rendered susceptible to complete or partial eclipse and subjugation by the possessing spirit.”

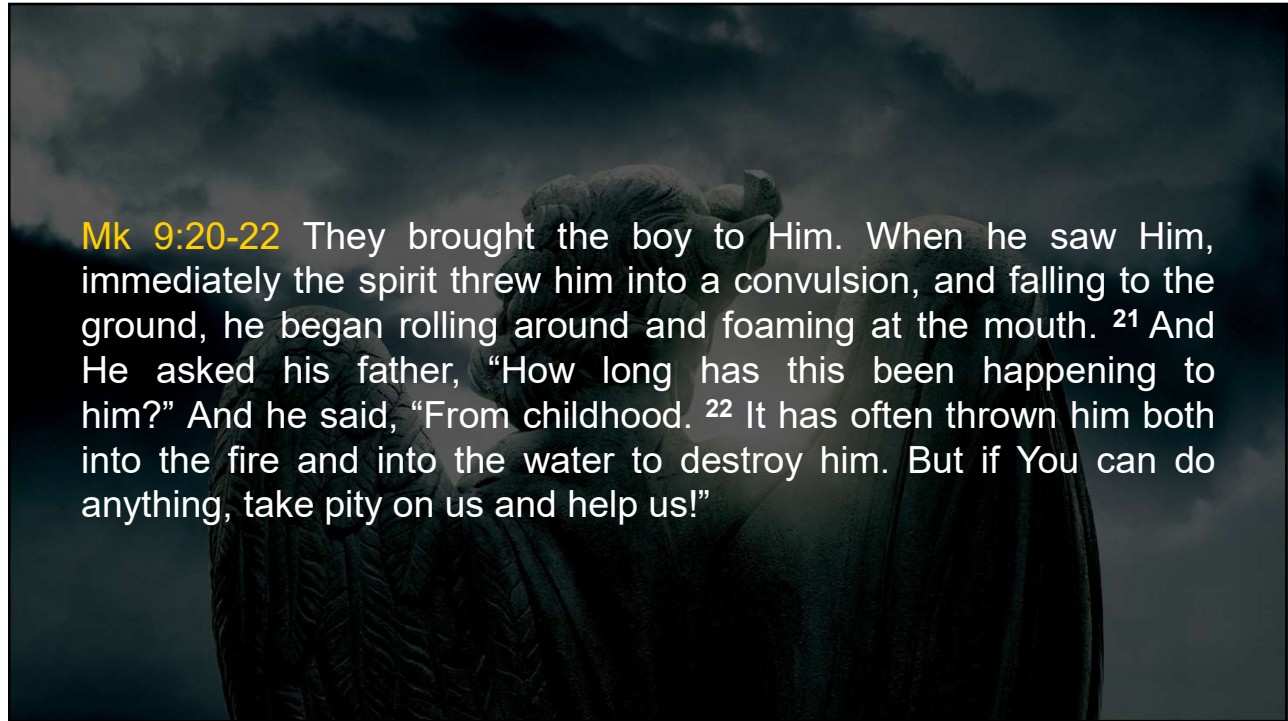
Unger, Biblical Demonology, p. 95

19

- Continued exposure and practice of vile sins
- Idolatry
- Dabbling in the occult
- Parental sins

Ex 20:4-5 “You shall not make for yourself an idol, or any likeness of what is in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the water under the earth. ⁵ You shall not worship them or serve them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, on the third and the fourth generations of those who hate Me,

20



Mk 9:20-22 They brought the boy to Him. When he saw Him, immediately the spirit threw him into a convulsion, and falling to the ground, he began rolling around and foaming at the mouth. ²¹ And He asked his father, “How long has this been happening to him?” And he said, “From childhood. ²² It has often thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if You can do anything, take pity on us and help us!”