

Disciples Fail To Cast Out A Demon

[Mat 17:14-21 NASB95] 14 When they came to the crowd, a man came up to Jesus, falling on his knees before Him and saying, 15 "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is a lunatic and is very ill; for he often falls into the fire and often into the water. 16 "I brought him to Your disciples, and they could not cure him." 17 And Jesus answered and said, "You unbelieving and perverted generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring him here to Me." 18 And Jesus rebuked him, and the demon came out of him, and the boy was cured at once. 19 Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not drive it out?" 20 And He said to them, "Because of the littleness of your faith; for truly I say to you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you. 21 ["But this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting."]

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*[Mar 6:7-13 NASB95] 7 And He summoned the twelve and began to send them out in pairs, **and gave them authority over the unclean spirits;** 8 and He instructed them that they should take nothing for [their] journey, except a mere staff--no bread, no bag, no money in their belt-- 9 but [to] wear sandals; and [He added,] "Do not put on two tunics." 10 And He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave town. 11 "Any place that does not receive you or listen to you, as you go out from there, shake the dust off the soles of your feet for a testimony against them." 12 They went out and preached that [men] should repent. 13 **And they were casting out many demons** and were anointing with oil many sick people and healing them.*

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[Mar 9:18 NASB95] 18 and whenever it seizes him, it slams him [to the ground] and he foams [at the mouth,] and grinds his teeth and stiffens out. I told Your disciples to cast it out, and they could not [do it.]“

[Mar 9:20 NASB95] 20 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.]

[Mar 9:22 NASB95] 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!“

[Mar 9:26 NASB95] 26 After crying out and throwing him into terrible convulsions, it came out; and [the boy] became so much like a corpse that most [of them] said, "He is dead!"

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[Mat 17:19-21 NASB95] 19 Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not drive it out?" 20 And He said to them, "Because of the littleness of your faith; for truly I say to you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you. 21 ["But this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting."]

What Had The Disciples Seen?

[Luk 7:22 NASB95] 22 And He answered and said to them, "Go and report to John what you have seen and heard: [the] BLIND RECEIVE SIGHT, [the] lame walk, [the] lepers are cleansed, and [the] deaf hear, [the] dead are raised up, [the] POOR HAVE THE GOSPEL PREACHED TO THEM.

How Does Fear Affect Faith?

Fear weakens faith.

Fear exposes weak faith.

FEAR & FAITH

*“...You of little
faith, why did
you doubt?”*
[Mat 14:31b]



Israel Refuses To Enter The Land (Num. 13,14)

*[Heb 3:16-19 NASB95] 16 For who provoked [Him] when they had heard? Indeed, did not all those who came out of Egypt [led] by Moses? 17 And with whom was He angry for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness? 18 And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, **but to those who were disobedient?** 19 [So] we see that they were not able to **enter because of unbelief.***

Israel Refuses To Enter The Land (Num. 13,14)

Fear causes disobedience of God's instructions.

- What will happen to us?
- What will happen to our children?
- We will return to Egypt (away from the danger).
- No, we will go take the land (to avoid the consequences).

Saul's Unlawful Sacrifice (1 Sam. 13)

[1Sa 13:11-12 NASB95] 11 But Samuel said, "What have you done?" And Saul said, "Because I saw that the people were scattering from me, and that you did not come within the appointed days, and that the Philistines were assembling at Michmash, 12 therefore I said, 'Now the Philistines will come down against me at Gilgal, and I have not asked the favor of the LORD.' So I forced myself and offered the burnt offering."

Saul's Unlawful Sacrifice (1 Sam. 13)

Fear causes modification of God's instructions.

- I saw the people scattering from me...
- You (God) didn't come when you were (God was) supposed to...
- The Philistines were assembling (the trouble is RIGHT HERE NOW...)
- I *forced* myself to offer the burnt offering.

Rebuilding Of The Temple Stopped (Ezra 1-6)

[Hag 1:2 NASB95] 2 "Thus says the LORD of hosts, 'This people says, "The time has not come, [even] the time for the house of the LORD to be rebuilt."'"

[Hag 1:4 NASB95] 4 "Is it time for you yourselves to dwell in your paneled houses while this house [lies] desolate?"

[Hag 1:6 NASB95] 6 "You have sown much, but harvest little; [you] eat, but [there is] not [enough] to be satisfied; [you] drink, but [there is] not [enough] to become drunk; [you] put on clothing, but no one is warm [enough;] and he who earns, earns wages [to put] into a purse with holes."

Rebuilding Of The Temple Stopped (Ezra 1-6)

[Hag 1:9-11 NASB95] 9 "[You] look for much, but behold, [it comes] to little; when you bring [it] home, I blow it [away.] Why?" declares the LORD of hosts, "Because of My house which [lies] desolate, while each of you runs to his own house. 10 "Therefore, because of you the sky has withheld its dew and the earth has withheld its produce. 11 "I called for a drought on the land, on the mountains, on the grain, on the new wine, on the oil, on what the ground produces, on men, on cattle, and on all the labor of your hands."

Rebuilding Of The Temple Stopped (Ezra 1-6)

Fear causes indifference to God's instructions.

- The (perceived) majority is making it difficult.
- The king has FORCED us to stop. We have no choice.
- We've accepted this problem as normal and are comfortable in our adjustments to it.
- We'll concentrate on what we (think we) can control – Building our own houses and pursuing (vainly) our own prosperity.
- The problem didn't go away. Sixteen years later, they still had to deal with local enemies, a king and an old decree.

Fear & Faith

Fear causes disobedience of God's instructions.

Fear causes modification of God's instructions.

Fear causes indifference to God's instructions

Which Spirit? (2 Tim. 1:7)

[2TI 1:7 NASB95] 7 FOR GOD HAS NOT GIVEN US A SPIRIT OF TIMIDITY, BUT OF POWER AND LOVE AND DISCIPLINE.

[NUM 14:24 NASB95] 24 "BUT MY SERVANT CALEB, BECAUSE HE HAS HAD A DIFFERENT SPIRIT AND HAS FOLLOWED ME FULLY, I WILL BRING INTO THE LAND WHICH HE ENTERED, AND HIS DESCENDANTS SHALL TAKE POSSESSION OF IT.

Power - *[Num 14:8 NASB95] 8 "If the LORD is pleased with us...He will bring us into this land and give it to us..."*

Love - *[Num 14:9 NASB95] 9 "Only do not rebel against the LORD; and do not fear the people of the land..."*

Discipline - *[Num 13:30 NASB95] 30 Then Caleb quieted the people..."*