

## EXPOSING AND EXPELLING DEMONS

Wicked spirits manifest themselves in varying degrees in different people. In comparatively rare instances they take control in a complete and obvious manner. When this is the case, the victim experiences some kind of seizure, lapses into unconsciousness, or manifests violent and unbecoming behavior. This may take place before the session even gets under way, or during the time of prayer. When this happens, it becomes imperative to omit the usual preliminaries! More often the manifestation is in such a subtle form that it is not readily recognized. In the majority of cases, however, the wicked ones are so submerged and identified with the victim that it is virtually impossible to contact them.

Demons can often be brought into manifestation by repeating a command after this order: "On the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ I command you wicked spirits who are troubling (name of counselee) to come to attention for removal." The command can be changed to specify particular symptoms which are experienced. "On the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ I command you to come to attention for removal you wicked spirits who give (name of counselee) a violent temper." Probe according to symptoms most recently or most frequently experienced. Another means by which demons are sometimes brought into manifestation is the making of positive or commendatory statements regarding the counselee. For example, make declarations of what he is and has in the Lord Jesus Christ. A demon will often surface in order to challenge any commendation of his victim. It is important to remember that communications intended for wicked spirits usually need to be repeated many times.

The counselor needs to be on the alert so that when a demon does come into manifestation he is aware of the fact. As already indicated, this may be so subtle that it is not easily detected. Some demons are able to counterfeit their victim so cleverly that even an experienced worker is at least temporarily tricked. More than once I have discovered to my chagrin that I had been talking with the demon when I thought it was the counselee! Wicked spirits can always be identified by their attitude toward the Lord Jesus Christ. One learns that it is wise repeatedly and often to make the query, "Do you confess Jesus Christ as Lord?" or "Do you confess Jesus Christ come in the flesh?" Even then he must be on guard for evasive or misleading responses.

When the eyes of the counselee remain closed, or if he avoids looking directly at your face, a demon is very likely on the surface. Any contrary attitude is expressed, and statements such as the following are spoken: "I don't want to talk to you!" "I hate you!" "No! No! No!" "Leave me alone!" If the counselor is not on the alert he can easily believe that the one who has sought help has changed his mind and even turned against him. It is important that he recognize the presence of the enemy and proceed to deal with him.