

CHRISTIANS, IDOLS & DEMONS

This discussion may challenge your most cherished beliefs about the culture in which you have been nurtured, and your ideas about the existence of the spiritual world or good and evil, righteousness, and holiness. Furthermore, it exposes the exact requirements that God requires of each and everyone in the walk along the narrow and difficult path to heaven. **Matthew 7: 13-14.** The discussion on demons and idols does not purport to be the end all and be all of demonology but presents some thoughts on the subject which are found in God's word, The Holy Bible, and from the writer's own experiences along with those of many others. More importantly, suggestions are made on what each of us can do to rectify one of the most serious issues we face in life's walk.

The ban against Idolatry is found in two of the Ten Commandments. We are all guilty of breaking each one of the 10 Great Commandments, particularly the second and third which ban worship of other gods and idols! How we view and treat other gods, idols and the occult, and the other 8 commandments will determine whether or not we will make it into Heaven! Disobedience to God's words will end us up in Hell - not a desirable destination !

WARNING!

Do not have anything to do with idols! Idols will pollute or contaminate your flesh, soul and spirit ! **2 Corinthians 7:1**

Please read the scriptures quoted carefully, better still, read the whole chapter or more. Read to obey!

God's Holy Bible defines sin - The Law reveals sin **Romans 3:20.** The sin of idolatry is defined by the second and third of the Ten Commandments. **Exodus 20:3 -6; Deuteronomy 5: 7-10 (see Question2).** Often we sin because of ignorance of not knowing what the Law is. Ignorance is no excuse for breaking the Law. This discussion is presented as further revelation that we cannot please God by our own strength. We all stand guilty of idolatry.

Our problem is knowing how to deal with the our own sins plus the sins of our "fathers" (ancestors). Thankfully, God has provided the answer to the sin problem - He sent Jesus Christ, His Son, to pay the price for all our sins. We only have to accept the free gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ's death and resurrection at The Cross. We receive the gift, not by putting out our hands, but by Repenting - having a broken spirit and a broken and contrite heart. **Psalms 51** It is the shed blood of The Lamb of God which takes away the deep stain of sin, blood that was shed almost 2,000 years ago. There is no other viable alternative.

It is my prayer that you will humble yourself before God and seek His forgiveness through the atoning work of our Lord Jesus Christ.

FIRST, SOME DEFINITIONS TO SET THE BASIS FOR OUR DISCUSSION

Question: 1: What are other gods?

Answer: The First Great Commandment reads " You shall have no other gods before Me" **Exodus 20:3** Mankind was Created to worship the One true creator God according to His Holy Word. Since there is only one true God, all others are false gods, not gods. The pagan gods are demons put up by Satan. So when a person bows down or is offered to a god that person is worshipping Satan.

Question 2: What is an idol?

Answer: An idol is "an **image** as object of **worship**; false god; object of Devotion" Oxford dictionary.
In other words we are allowed to worship one God - our Creator Father God - any worship not directed to the One true living God is to worship other gods, idols.

An idol may be anything which, in your own life, takes the place of Almighty God. An idol is an image, logo, or sign used by Satan to represent The Kingdom of Satan which is opposed to the Kingdom of God (represented by Jesus Christ). The objective of Satan, [his name means "adversary" - to the Triune Godhead] is to lead mankind to his kingdom - hell. The objective of God is to allow man a choice to follow the resurrected Jesus The Christ (Messiah) into heaven.

Idolatry is the entry into the world of the occult - worship of Satan. It manifests itself in astrology, séances, necromancy, reincarnation, ghosts, yin and yang, acupuncture, divination, martial arts, talisman and amulets, spells, cannibalism, palmistry, horoscopes etc.

Here are the names of some idols:

- (1) Graven images - such as Buddha, Confucius, Goddess of Mercy (Guan Yuan or Guan Yin), The Dragon, The Phoenix
- (2) Martial Arts - as this involves mimicking the movements of animals and Buddhist (demonic) concepts of salvation through discipline of self as the way to enlightenment. **Romans 1 : 18-32**
- (3) Money or Mammon **Matthew 6:24** Anything that money can buy could be an object of veneration such as a Motor car, House.
- (4) Heros - such as film stars, mentors, sporting star, anyone you look up to and want to emulate who is not Jesus Christ!
- (5) Any object animate or inanimate which you revere or have a fetish over- such as a motorcar, medals, hats, clothes, your own body, your family name, logo of a company where people lay their lives down for "the sake of the company" flag of a country, etc. a Company or organization, which is not a person, is given the characteristics of a person with its own culture, organization, and hierarchical benefit system (wages and salaries, profits, power, status of position etc.).

Therefore, an idol can be a graven image, including pictures, of a person or object or animal which takes the place of the one true God as an object of worship or veneration.

Key Scriptures:

Exodus 20: 1-26 Ten Commandments - note 20:

Deuteronomy 5: 1- 6:25 Note 5:8-10 total ban on idols, 5:33

Please read the Ten Commandments carefully [these were written by God's own hand on tablets of stone] Deuteronomy 4:12, 9:10, Chapter 9 & 10

Note the first, second and third commandments- there is a total ban on all images and idols which bring a curse to the idolater plus a curse which passes on to the second, third and fourth generation! There are a lot of people (around 92 -see Question 12.4 p.11) who can be cursed because of the idolatrous actions of our forefathers, and worst of all, ourselves!

" I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the house of bondage.

- 1. You shall have no other gods before Me*
- 2. You shall not make for yourself any carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; you shall not bow down to them or serve them. For I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me, but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep my commandments.*
- 3. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold you guiltless who takes His name in vain." Exodus 20:1-7 See also Deuteronomy Chapter 5*

Question 3: What is worship?

Worship is " homage or service paid to God; adoration felt for a person or principle; title of respect for a magistrate, especially a mayor; adore as divine; honour with religious rites, idolize; attend public worship. " Oxford dictionary

In short, we worship something or someone when we bow down to it/them or we give our lives to that person or object. It is a spiritual act.

In the Biblical sense there are only two persons we can worship - The one true living God (YHWH in the Old Testament), or, Satan and any of the objects which represent him.

Thus, Satanic worship includes: people (e.g. movie star, or sports hero, or mentor, or any person you look up to etc) animals or insects (e.g. worship of the cow in India; worship of Buddha in Asia and elsewhere; worship of cars and other inanimate objects). Worship of self is putting oneself above God and is therefore Satanic.

Key Scriptures:

In the Holy Bible worship involves the offering on an altar of a sacrifice to God.

In the Old Testament the first time the word Worship is mentioned is when Abraham offered his only son Issac to YHWH as a sacrifice in pure obedience. Abraham had drawn his knife to kill Issac only to be told to stop! **Genesis 22: 1-19**

In the New Testament each believer/ Christian must offer themselves as a living sacrifice

Romans 12:1-2

*" I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your **bodies** a living sacrifice, **holy, acceptable** to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be **conformed** to this world, but **be transformed** by the renewing of your **mind**, that you may **prove** what is that good and acceptable and perfect **will of God** "*

Let us have a look at the key words in these two verses:

Body - we are to present ourself to God as a living sacrifice. If we present our body, we present all that is within it - our soul, spirit, demons, problems, illnesses etc. **Hebrews 4:12-13**. Our body is described by the Holy Spirit to be the battleground between demons and Jesus Christ **Romans 6: 1- 23**

Even though Jesus Christ won the battle at the Cross with His death followed by His Resurrection, we do not necessarily know this! It is by faith that we believe - and most times our faith is so weak! **1 Corinthians 15: 20 - 28. Philippians 2: 5-11 Colossians 2:14-15**

We can be "as-thick-as-bricks!" *We do not believe!*

The body is something we must discipline and look after **1 Corinthians 9:27, 9:24-27**. Our body houses the soul and spirit. **Matthew 10:28, Hebrews 4:12-13**.

Holy - this means "set apart" - obviously set apart from everything to God Almighty! Holy also means pure - uncontaminated, or sterile - germ-free. We can enter Heaven only if we are holy. We are made holy by the blood of the Lamb that was slain. There is nothing we can do to achieve the state of holiness - neither ritual, church attendance, nor temple worship. The idea of contamination is important. Read **Haggai 2: 10-14**. Something holy will not make anything it comes into contact with holy. Similarly, something unclean will not become holy if it is taken into a holy place. We are made holy by repentance - putting ourselves under the Cross of Jesus Christ so that His blood will continually cleanse us from all unrighteousness **1 John 1:7-9**. We are kept holy or righteous by continually obeying God.

Acceptable - we can do anything we like, but is it acceptable to those we wish to please? We must do what pleases God our Heavenly Father.

Conformed - we are not to be conformed, moulded, to this world - the world. The social, economic, political values and normative systems of this world. We are to be different, yet are to be "salt" in the world, to be a "light" shining into a world plunged in spiritual darkness.

Transformed - in the original Greek, the transforming is a work done entirely by God who is seen to be active. We are to submit ourselves to Him

and be passive so that He can work on us.

Our aim is to allow Jesus Christ to manifest himself within our body so that the image of Satan is removed - my aim is to die to myself so that Jesus Christ can reign in me! "Not I but Christ" **Galatians 2:20**

Mind - He will renew our minds - He will reprogramme our computer, the Mind! We also actively participate in this process by continually offering ourselves to Him in repentance (always confessing our sins) so that His blood can take away our unrighteous acts and thoughts, 1 **John 1:7-9** and by reading His Word as contained in the Holy Bible **Matthew 4:4** so that our faith in God's mighty power will grow **Romans 10:17**.

Evidence- Everyone wants to know the facts, the evidence which proves the case! Well it is our lives - the way we live. We must be seen to be doing all the above. We are living, walking testimonies of God's amazing Grace, of His glory! We either are or are not the reflectors of His glory **2 Corinthians 3:18**

Will of God - The ultimate objective of every living being is to do God's will. I in other words He is given free reign in our lives to do whatever He wants in our lives - to use us for His glory! What is the will of God in your life? **Matthew 7:21; 6:10**

If you offer yourself as a living sacrifice (not a dead one as in the Old Testament and as pagan worshippers do) you offer everything that is living to God. If you do this act sincerely and by faith in God's great mercies, He will perform His Word, He will do what He says He will do!

Read, this passage, meditate on it - it is vital for your continuing salvation! Obedience to this word involves your body, soul and spirit - your all!

Question 4: What is a demon?

Answer:

A demon is an unclean spirit which likes to live in people and animals
Matthew 12:43-45 . The word demon is used interchangeably with the nouns *unclean spirit* and *evil spirit*.

A demon may enter into, or attach itself to, a person because of sin (own sin or sins of fathers- ancestral) and so affect the person from within, fusing its personality with that of the recipient.

Demons have personalities:

Will - **Matthew 12:44, Mark 5:11-13**

Emotion - **James 2:19**

Knowledge - **Mark 1:23-24, Acts 19:15**

Self-awareness - **Mark 5:9**

A Conscience too seared to respond - **1 Timothy 4:2**

Can speak - using the voice of the host person (sounds just like the person!)
Mark 1:24, 5:7-12, Acts 19: 15

A familiar spirit of a person is that spirit which has lived in the person and therefore knows everything about the host - voice, mannerisms, personality, knowledge etc. Thus it is possible for witches or a medium to conjure-up a person's familiar spirit. No disciple of Christ will do this!

A demon is a Satanic spirit. A demon may look like an angel of light **2 Corinthians 11:14** or like an idol (which represents it's image) **Psalms 115: 8**.

For instance: a demon of Buddha may look like Buddha and cause the person who has been dedicated to it as a child or who is currently become a Buddhist devotee to look like the Buddha. It may look like a hairy ball - one of Satan's names is "hairy-one" **Leviticus 17:7, 2 Chronicles 11:15**

Demons originate from the great rebellion in Heaven when 1/3rd of the angels were led in rebellion against God by Lucifer, the angel of light, who fought the angel Michael in Heaven. Lucifer lost the battle and was cast down onto earth **Isaiah 14: 12-21, and Ezekiel 28: 11- 19.** (the descriptions in these Scriptures go beyond the picture of the description of any man). Another name for Lucifer is Satan - which means 'the adversary of Christ', the Anti-Christ. Behind each demon is Satan.

Demons are organised in a hierarchical, pyramid, structure and chain of command - **Colossians 1:16.**

From top to bottom

- Spiritual hosts of wickedness, **Ephesians 6:11-12 **
- Rulers of darkness of this age;
- Powers (authorities); and,
- Principalities. (the angel is delayed by the demon 'prince of the kingdom of Persia' for 21 days). **Daniel 10:13**

Demons therefore control geographical areas - territories. Thus Hindu and Asian cultures typically have small alters in street corners, acknowledging this geographical fact.

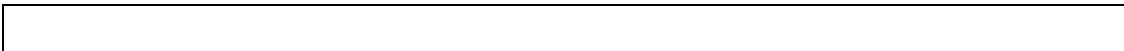
Demons want to live in mankind in much the same way that mosquitos need to drink animal or human blood (mosquitos can only reproduce by taking in blood, unlike demons who just like to inhabit humans) **.Ephesians 6.** If they can't then they will go to the extent of even plucking God's words from a person's heart (see parable of the sower) **Matthew Chapter 13.**

Demons are at the root of every "ism" and every pyramid structure or human Organization which does not have Jesus Christ as its active and ruling head For example: communism, atheism, agnosticism, Satanism (includes witchcraft, geomancy, horoscopes, palm reading, necromancy, and the like), They are the "5th Columnist" to be found in every human organization and in every human being. No one can give themselves a clean bill of spiritual health! We are all sinners! Some of us forgiven sinners!

Demons have their own religious systems - via "Christian" church institutions (known as The Harlot or daughters of the harlot, or "Babylon" in the end times), and pagan temples each with their distinctive names. At the heart of each system is an emphasis on rituals, mantras (recitation of a simple sentence repetitively). Not even the Jewish synagogue system is exempted by Jesus Christ **John 8: 30-59.** So great was the satanic deception that the Jews actually accused Jesus of being demon possessed! **John 7: 20, 8:48.**

Demons believe in Jesus Christ and tremble **James 2:19** - they tried to tempt Jesus Christ in the wilderness to achieve a "Crossless Christ", a victory before the battle which took place on The Cross of Calvary. **Matthew 4: 1-17**

Demons are at the root of many of mankind's problems. They are the root cause of sin and death, and psychological and emotional problems common to mankind, as well as health problems caused by pollution(result of greed) and accidents (some people are particularly "accident" prone).



Jesus Christ came into the world so that we could have peace in our hearts, health, and an abundant life in Him as we allow Him to take over our bodies and to use us for His glory as His instruments of righteousness! He came that we might have life now, and in the future now, in heaven. John Chapter 10

Jesus Christ broke the inherited bondage of sin in each of our lives by dying as a ransom for us on the Cross when He shed His blood to make us righteous 1 Corinthians 3:16-17

Christians are warned to test the spirits 1 John 4: 1-3; 1 Corinthians 12:3

Question 5: Who is a Christian?

Answer: The disciples were given the name Christian at Antioch Acts 11:26. The name Christian is literally " Christ in " In other words, Christ is in a person. Galatians 2:20, 1 Corinthians 3: 16-17; 6: 19-20; Revelations 3:20

A Christian is:

a person who has repented of their sins; Acts 2:38-39

a person who has been baptised in water, in the Holy Spirit, and is walking in the baptism of Fire for cleansing in Holiness;

Acts 2:38-39, Matthew 3:11

a person who " agapes the Lord God with all thy mind heart, soul, and strength, and who agapes their neighbour as themselves"

Matthew 22: 37- 40

A person who believes in the Lord Jesus Christ Romans 10:9

a person who follows after Jesus Christ in agape and obeys his commands (voice).

Matthew 4:19, John 10:16

A person who hates this world and agapes God and all that He is!

1 John 1:15,

A person who is a citizen of Heaven, who therefore adopts the values and normative systems of that country (Heaven) as outlined in the New Testament. That is, who once was in darkness and now walks in the light.

Ephesians 2:19, 1 John 1:5-10

A person whose name is written in the Lambs Book of Life. Revelations 21:27

In other words a Christian is a "disciple" of Jesus Christ, a "believer" in Jesus Christ, a "follower" of Jesus Christ.

Many who profess to be Christians are in fact not Christians according to the God's definition found in the Bible (His Words).

The corollary to a Christian is a Satanist (pagan or Non-Christian).

A Satanist is anyone who worships Satan either knowingly or unwittingly, and who loves the world, and self. The one true God is disregarded. You could say that anyone who does not agape God with all their mind, heart, soul and strength, and their neighbour as themselves. The operative word is agape (God's pure unselfish love which emanates from Him and enters into a disciple). A disciple of Jesus Christ cannot agape the world " *the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and pride of life - is not of the Father but is of the world*" 1 John 2: 16 , 15-17

NOW, ON TO THE BUSINESS END OF THIS DISCUSSION

Question 6: Does mankind have a propensity to worship Satan?

Answer: "YES!"

Satan in Hebrew means "adversary" - He is the adversary to the Almighty God, to His Christ. The Holy Bible teaches in Genesis Chapters 1-3 that God the Creator created the heavens and the earth and all that is in it by a spoken word! Yet God sculptured man and breathed life into Adam, fashioned a help-mate Eve for him and talked with Adam every evening. Satan seduced Eve who shared the forbidden fruit with Adam and the rest is history - man chose to worship Satan rather than his Creator God! The history of the Israelites, God's chosen people, is one of serving Satan and idols rather than obeying God.

Jesus Christ burst onto the world scene for an explosive 3 years or so with an anointed ministry of Preaching, Healing and deliverance (casting demons out of people) **Luke 4:18** - disciples are to have a similar ministry as it is Jesus Christ continuing His work through His disciples **Mark 16: 14-20**. Do a quick scan through the four accounts of the Gospel (Matthew ,Mark, Luke, and John) and you will quickly see that Jesus Christ healed many people and set them free from the influences of demons.

The call of Jesus Christ to "Follow Him" is for the few, not many **Matthew 20:16, 13:1-23 Parable of the Sower**.

Most people today find it easier to succumb to Satan's temptations than to heed Jesus Christ's call, exactly like the Israelites. Even those who call themselves "Christians" find the narrow path too difficult **Matthew 7: 13-14**.

Question 7: Can a Christian have idols or even pictures of idols in their home?

Answer: "NO!"

There is a total ban on idolatry. We must have a revulsion to anything idolatrous, exactly as God does!

Key Scriptures:

Exodus 20: 3 - 6 The first, second and third commandments

Deuteronomy 5: 1- 33

Deuteronomy Chapters 1- 7

Note: In a Law book, mention of a law once is sufficient. YHWH has chosen to record it twice! (Exodus Chapter 20 and Deuteronomy Chapter 5. This means that we are to take special note - it is God's method of ensuring that we take special care to read and understand these Laws. The Law defines what is unlawful - The Law defines sin Romans 3:20. This point was made in the beginning of this discussion - it is worth repeating!

Question 8: Is a Christian allowed to worship (bow down to) idols?

Answer: "NO!"

Key Scriptures:

1 Corinthians 10:20 -22 " *The Gentiles... sacrifice to demons and not to God, and I [Paul] do not want you have fellowship with demons. You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of the Lord's table and the table of demons. Do we provoke the Lord to jealousy? Are we stronger than He?* "

Question 9: What is God's attitude to idols?

Answer: Idols are an abomination ! Idols are an "accursed thing" **Deuteronomy 7: 25- 26; 18:9-14** . Idols are demons ! **1 Corinthians 10:20** People who worship idols are "cursed" by God **Deuteronomy 27: 15; 28:15-68**. These words are the strongest possible words to show God's hatred of idols and the satanic religious thought systems they represent. The pagan cultures surrounding the Israelites all worshipped idols. Their culture was infused totally with demonic patterns of thinking and behaviour (values and norms) . God says that the cultures of this world are " *earthly, sensual, demonic* " **James 3:15** It is no accident that satanic rites and people who reject God fall into the trap of sexual sins. This applies to Christians who live their lives in the flesh and are not led by the Holy Spirit. **1 Corinthians 2:14**

Key Scriptures:

Deuteronomy 7: 25-26 " *You shall burn the carved images of their gods with fire; you shall not covet the silver or gold that is on them, nor take it for yourselves, lest you be snared by it; for it is an abomination to the LORD your God. Nor shall you bring an abomination into your house, lest you be doomed to destruction like it; but you shall utterly detest it and utterly abhor it, for it is an accursed thing* "

The history of Israel, the Hebrew nation, is one of rebellion against this word. All the Kings of Israel were evil and were idolaters. A third of the kings of Judah were idolaters (8 out of 24 - according to my accounting). The gods of the pagans became their gods. They gave up the true living almighty God for demons!

They gave up the true living mighty God who revealed His great love for His own in the great Exodus by 10 great plagues, and by destroying pharaoh and his armies. **Exodus Chapters 1-15**. He protected and fed them miraculously them in the wilderness for 40 years with: The Cloud by day; and Pillar of Fire by night; fed them Manna which they collected every day except the Sabbath (they collected a double portion on Friday morning to last through the Sabbath - the miracle of this the food appeared in the morning for them to collect, and any left over was inedible except the double portion collected on Friday morning which lasted the Sabbath); He provided water from a "portable" rock to quench their thirst as well as for their animals; their clothes and shoes did not wear out for the 40 year journey **Exodus Chapter 17**; and because of sin, none of the first generation made it into the promised land, not even Abraham! **Deuteronomy 3:23-29**

In the promised land, God sent the prophets like Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel to warn the people of coming destruction because of their rebellion against God's commandments. As an outstanding example, here is the Prophet Samuel's message from God to King Saul who was disobedient to

God's commandments (this message is typical of the warnings the people received from all the prophets:

1 Samuel 15: 22 -23 " Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, As in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, And to heed than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD , He has also rejected you from being king "

Another word for the continuing rebellion of Israel and Judah down through the ages of the Old Testament is "Harlotry". The Hebrews were good at playing the whore - looking for paramours. God's revulsion to this is dramatised by Hosea, His prophet, who had to marry a harlot, symbolizing in Hosea's life the life of God's chosen ones.

Are we Christians any different from the Israelites of the Old Testament? I think so! What do you think?

Question 10: Why shouldn't I worship idols?

- Answer:**
1. God specifically commands against the worship of idols
Exodus 20: 3-6
 2. To worship idols is disobedience to God's commandment - the punishment is death
Exodus 20:20
 3. You will look like the idol you worship! **Psalm 115:8.** Our aim in life should be to "look" like Jesus Christ , being conformed or transformed into His image! **2 Corinthians 3:18**
 4. You will grieve the Holy Spirit **Ephesians 4:30**
 5. Your name will not be written in the Lamb's Book of Life
Revelations 21:27
 6. You will not make it to Heaven **Revelations 21:8**

Question 11: But God is a loving God - in the New Testament we are not under The Law but under the Grace of God.

Answer: It is absolutely true that God is a loving [agaping] God **John 3:16.** It is also absolutely true that we live by Grace and not The Law in the New Testament Jesus Christ age **Ephesians 2:8.** **It is also absolutely true that we must be obedient to the Word of God to show that we truly agape [God's pure sacrificial love - untainted by any selfishness] John 14:21, 1 John 2:3. We must show in our lives the same abhorrence to idols as God does (like father like son principle).** Just as a child shows his love for his parents by obeying them, so we show our agape for our Heavenly Father by obeying Him!

Question 12: How do idols get into a home - the place where I live, and into my body?

"Home" in the first instance refers to the dwelling place, house, in which we live. It also refers to our own body, which become the dwelling place of the Holy Spirit **1 Corinthians 3:16-17; 6:19-20** when we repent of our sins and sinful nature **Acts 2:31-32** and submit ourselves to process of being "Born Again" (**John 3**).

Answer:

1. By marrying a spouse who is not a Christian
Read **Deuteronomy 7:1-11**
2. By buying idols as objects of art (an image)
3. By accepting gifts (and keeping them) from pagans who either worship idols or do not see anything wrong with idols.
4. By the generational curse of idolatry back 4 generations - that's a lot of entry points. Start from me [**1**]. I have two parents - mum and dad (2). Mum has two parents (2), as does dad (2) - my Grandparents [**3**]. My Great grand parents [**4**] have (4) + (4) x 8= **64** + 16+ 8+4 = The total 92 people or 92 entry points for satanic invasion, or demonic possession!

Call it what you will but there are heaps of entry points to pollute our genetic pool ! It is like addiction. A pregnant mother who is on drugs will give birth to a "drug addict baby" - the trigger will be when the "baby" grows up and takes its first "fix". A alcoholic, or tobacco addicted mother will produce a baby who is an alcoholic or smoker just waiting to take their first drink or first smoke to trigger off the problem.

The generational curse can only be broken through repentance and the power of Jesus Christ's shed blood! Drug rehabilitation and Alcoholic Anonymous (AA) can only help a person manage their addiction - man cannot set a person free from the power of the addiction! Only Jesus Christ can set a person free! **John 8:32, 36.**

Question 13: If I have idols in my home should I get rid of them?

Answer: YES! Destroy them, smash them up, burn them

I can smash and burn objects which I own and store inside the house., in Jesus' name. But how can I smash something that is spiritually within me?

By REPENTING big time and pleading with, accepting the fullness of the work which Jesus Christ completed on The Cross - the work of salvation. He did it all at The Cross, all that was and is necessary for our complete deliverance from sin, our sinful nature inherited through Adam, and the world (and all that the world represents)! It is completely by faith and by God's almighty Grace, not by our own strength ! This why we must submit ourselves to permit the Holy Spirit to create within us "a broken spirit and a broken and contrite heart" **Psalm 51: 17.**

Scriptures:

Deuteronomy 7: 25 to 8:1 " *You shall burn the carved images of their gods with fire; you shall not covet the silver or gold that is on them, nor take it for yourselves, lest you be snared by it; for it is an abomination to the LORD your God. Nor shall you bring an abomination into your house, lest you be doomed to destruction like it; but you shall utterly detest it and utterly abhor it, for it is an accursed thing.*" Every commandment which I command you today you

must be careful to observe, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land of which the LORD swore to your fathers"

Acts 15:20 " ...abstain from things polluted by idols, from sexual immorality, from things strangled, and from blood "

Comment: For Chinese and Indian Asians who commonly have alters to demons at home the ban on foods offered to idols, things strangled (eg. Eating pigeons which are normally strangled) and blood (steamed blood pudding, or black pudding sausages - Dutch or German delicacy). Sexual immorality is common in today's world both in the world and in the church. The Acts 15 proclamation was the result of the historic Apostolic Jerusalem meeting around 48 A.D. and was, and is , applicable to all Christians!

Question 14: What if I have pictures or crockery or furniture with idols or images of objects of worship etched, engraved, or carved in them?

Answer: Do the same as in Question 9 above.

Question 15: But, idols are nothing - they are only harmless representations of something people worship or something which exists in the world anyway! How can they be harmful to me?

Answer: Each idol represents a demon. That is, whilst the idol is either an inanimate or animate object, it represents a spirit - God calls the spirit being a demon!

1. The demon will live in your body and gradually take over your spirit and soul. **2 Corinthians 6:11- 7:1**
2. If you are a manufacturer of idols you will eventually look like the idol you make, and so will those who worship them. **Psalms 115: 8**
3. A demon in your body makes you spiritually unclean in God's eyes. **Matthew 12: 43-45 , 2 Corinthians 6:11- 7:1 [NOTE 7:1]**
4. A spiritually contaminated person cannot enter into heaven
Revelations 21:8

We may liken our bodies to a bus. This bus makes many stops to pick-up passengers who sit in the bus. If each one of these passengers is a demon, then we need to kick each of these demons off our bus. We each have the choice to kick them out of our lives or to let them stay. We have the freedom of choice.

I am the driver of my own bus. I have the authority to choose who I let on to my bus, and who I can command to leave my bus. The problem is that the demons on my bus are spiritual beings, and I have no authority within me to have authority over demons. I can tell people I don't like to get off my bus (or to leave my house or not to touch my property or children), but I have no spiritual authority or power to get rid of demons! Jesus Christ is the only one with that authority. If He is The Lord of our body, then He will tell the demons to leave since they will have no legal right to remain within us - but only if we ask Jesus Christ to do this for us. It all depends on us exercising our own will! Jesus Christ will never ever kick our friends out of our bodies!

Key Scriptures:

2 Corinthians 6:11-7:1,

verse 6:17-7:1 " Come out from among them And be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, And I will receive you. I will be a Father to you and you shall be My sons and daughters, Says the LORD Almighty. Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God " (emphasis added!)

Psalms 115:8 " Those who make them [idols] are like them; So is everyone who trusts in them "

Matthew 12:43-45 " When an unclean spirit goes out of a man, he goes through dry places, seeking rest, and finds none. Then he says, ' I will return to my house from which I came.' And when he comes, he finds it empty, swept and put in order. Then he goes and takes with him seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter and dwell there; and the last state of that man is worse than the first. So shall it also be with this wicked generation. "

Revelations 21:8 " But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, **idolaters**, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death "

Question 16: What do you think about necromancy, witchcraft, numerology, Feng shui etc. ?

Answer: God specifically commands us to avoid wicked customs

Key Scriptures:

Deuteronomy 18: 9-14 " When you come into the land which the LORD your God is giving you, you shall not learn to follow the **abominations** of those nations. There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or one who practices witchcraft, or a soothsayer, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer, or one who conjures spells, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead. For all who do these things are an abomination to the LORD, and because of these abominations the LORD your God drives them out before you. You shall be blameless before the LORD your God. For these nations which you will dispossess listened to soothsayers and diviners; but as for you, the LORD Your God has not appointed such for you."

Acts 19:19 " ...many of those who had practiced magic brought their books together and burned them in the sight of all. And they counted up the value of them and it totaled fifty thousand pieces of silver. So the word of the Lord grew mightily and prevailed "

Question 17: Can a Christian have a demon or demons living in and on their body?

Answer: YES! The reason is that

Most or many churches say "NO!" They will also avoid teaching about the existence of demons, or may even go as far as saying that demons do not exist in the New Testament era after Jesus Christ's resurrection. Another

response is: once you become a Christian they will leave. The operative word is Christian - who is a Christian?

Many who claim to be Christians are in actual fact not Christians at all - they know nothing about being **repentant**, the first step to becoming a Christian or disciple. So-called "carnal Christians" are in fact "Christians" (or "not Christians" or "Flesh Christians" who walk in the "flesh" . The word "carnal" is a translation of the Greek word "sarx" which means "flesh"). **1 Corinthians 2:14**. Those who walk in the flesh are under condemnation since they do not walk in The Spirit of God - are not led by the Holy Spirit. **Romans 8: 1-2** Those who are spiritual men have the spirit of Christ **1 Corinthians 2:15**, and are led by the Holy Spirit.

The "flesh" is at war with The Spirit (Ishmael is symbolic of "flesh" and Issac of The Spirit of God) **Galatians 4: 21- 31** **See Question 3 and answer.**

If a Church teaches that a person cannot have a demon in them, a the church member believes this, then we have a classic case of "institutional unbelief" ! Remember, Jesus Christ upbraids His own disciples for their unbelief and hardness of heart (His resurrection, casting out demons, speaking in tongues (Greek - *glossalia* an estatic utterance), supernatural protection from serpents, poisonous or contaminated water (or anything drinkable), praying for the sick and seeing their recovery **Mark 16: 14, vs.9-20**. Unbelief results in a condemnation from Jesus Christ Himself ! **Mark16:16b**

God's words give a different response from that of most churches.

Jesus Christ cast demons out of the Jews, other Israelites and gentiles. The four accounts of the Gospel are resplendent with examples such as:

- (1) Jesus healed the sick and demon-possessed **Mark 1: 32-34**
- (2) The Gadarenes demoniac **Mark 5:1-20**; (this is the longest discussion of exorcism by our Lord and so it is of special importance especially instructive of the nature of demon possession, how demons may influence the behaviour of a person, and the exceptional power of Jesus Christ over His creation).
- (3) Jesus heals a boy of an unclean deaf and dumb spirit which, in addition, caused convulsions, foaming at the mouth, gnashing of the teeth, and rigidity **Mark 9: 14- 29**
- (4) Seven demons were cast out of Mary Magdalene **Mark 16:9**
- (5) After the Pentecost outpouring of the Holy Spirit, the apostles are seen to have the same power over unclean, demonic spirits in people **Acts 5:12-16**

Those who teach that Jesus Christ cast demons out of people only before His death and resurrection, conveniently forget that the Holy Spirit filled the disciples and the Holy Spirit continued to do Jesus Christ's work through the disciples! **Mark 16: 14- 20, Acts Chapter 5; 2:43, 4:30, 6:8, 14:3, 15:12** " Signs and wonders " are the key words!

It is for this reason that the picture of defence is presented as "spiritual armour" in Ephesians chapter 6, namely: breastplate of righteousness; feet shod with the preparation of the Gospel of Peace; the shield of faith to quench Satan's fiery darts; the helmet of salvation; the sword of the Spirit which is the word of God; and, always praying for all the saints. In effect we must be

clothed with the garments of praise and robes of righteousness **Isaiah 61:10** by putting on Jesus Christ in all His glory (we put on the Crucified then resurrected and glorified Jesus Christ) **Galatians 3:27**, and the whole armour of God **Ephesians 6:13**.

Noteworthy too is the fact that the discussion by God is set in context of the household and family life. The head of each household is assigned the human protecting role as "Prophet, Priest and King" of his own home and its family members. Each and everyone in the household is expected to be so spiritually "armed" or "clothed" because -

Satan seeks " to steal, to kill, and to destroy ".

I [Jesus Christ] have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly " **John 10: 10**.

We are warned by God to be on " RED ALERT " (extreme danger alertness with all defence and attack systems on instant standby) that Satan is stalking us as a roaring lion:

" Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world" 1 Peter 5:8-9

Jesus Christ is the same today, now and forever! **Hebrews 13:8** He is still in the deliverance and healing ministry. If people in Jesus' day and in the apostles' day had demons, and needed His healing touch, is there any logical reason to believe that things are any different today?

Question 18: What if I have had idols or used to bow down to them or used to have images (pictures, paintings etc.) of them, and I want to decontaminate myself spiritually - get rid of the demons from inside my body? How do I break the curse of idolatry either from my own actions or from the actions of my ancestors (3 to 4 generations back) ?

Answer:

What comes first - the chicken or the egg? We can get rid of all objects of cultic worship. We will do this only if we agree with God and agree to adopt His way of thinking! The first thing we can do is to physically get rid of every contaminant - we can smash, burn, and remove all traces of the objects from our property!

The second, thing is much more difficult - we must remove the spiritual contamination, and any demonic presence from within us which make us cling to the objects! Just as a magnet will only be effective to things made of steel, so we may have a natural desire to want demonic things! If we want them or will not let go of them then we do have a serious problem - a spiritual problem. So what is the spiritual solution? The answer lies in the word **repent**. Repentance (a change of mind and of heart) may be the only thing you need to do. After repentance you may also need to be delivered from the demon!

You will know how deep your repentance is and whether or not you will need any further deliverance from demonic power! Jesus Christ will do it for you if you will submit yourself for His ministry! There are no set human rules. God reigns! Remember, we are all to be led by the Holy Spirit!

Matthew 4:17 " **REPENT for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!** "

John the Baptist entered the world and preached this message. **Matthew 3:2**, Jesus Christ preached exactly the same message.

Acts 2:38-39

" REPENT AND LET EVERYONE ONE OF YOU BE BAPTISED IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST FOR THE REMISSION OF SINS; AND YOU SHALL RECEIVE THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. FOR THE PROMISE IS TO YOU AND TO YOUR CHILDREN, AND TO ALL WHO ARE AFAR OFF, AS MANY AS THE LORD OUR GOD WILL CALL"

Church teaching ranges from no teaching on this subject (never talk about the subject) or acknowledging the problem but teach that once we become Christians by being baptised into the church that the problem has been dealt with to **renouncing** the problem and that fixes the problem. It does not.

REPENTANCE, THE BLOOD OF JESUS CHRIST, THE TESTIMONY OF THE WORD LIVING IN A CHRISTIAN

God teaches us in His word that we must repent so that the blood of Jesus Christ will wash clean our unrighteous acts. The act of repentance is having a totally "Broken spirit and a broken and contrite heart" **Psalms 51: 17**

We must repent to break the generational curse which reaches down or back to the third and fourth generation (the Second Commandment of the Decalogue Exodus 20:4-6).

Sometimes you may need special prayer through a Christian so that Jesus Christ, through The Holy Spirit, will kick the demonic spirit out of a Christian's body (the temple of the Holy Spirit). . Sometimes we can get contaminated and need a spiritual detox or sterilising ! In the medical world the sterilization process involves heat in a sterilization cabinet for a defined period. In the spiritual world the Fire of the Holy Spirit is the cleansing power. The Blood of Jesus Christ also cleanses us from all unrighteousness **1 John 1:7-9** In Other instances, we may need a heavy dose of the anointed word of God so that the knife is applied to pierce and to reveal and to cut out the problem -

*" For the **word of God** (Greek- logos - the powerful spoken word which creates, and which is Jesus Christ Himself - **John 1:1**) is living and sharper than any two-edged sword, **piercing** even to the division of **soul** and **spirit**, and of **joints** and **marrow** and is a discerner of the **thoughts** and **intentions** of the heart. And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes if Him to whom we must give account"*

Hebrews 4:12-13.

Believe this word from Hebrews. Jesus works! His word is extremely sharp!

It reveals the "creature" problems to be found between the soul and spirit, joints and marrow! It discerns the thoughts and intents of the deceitful heart of every man. It reveals the creatures and exposes them into the light! No demons can last in the Son's light and presence - they must flee!

Sometimes our restoration may be accompanied by the constant nurture and tender loving care of Christian brothers and sisters, parent(s) for a period whilst we get our lives together in Christ Jesus. We can learn to trust our Almighty Creator God in the same way that we must learn to trust our parent(s) if they are sympathetic to our needs!

Ask the Lord Jesus Christ !! Ask and keep on asking, Seek and keep on seeking, Knock and keep on knocking! **Matthew 7:7** He will hear our cry!! He will answer! He will show you great and mighty things! **Jeremiah 33:3** [God's emergency telephone number is 333) He is faithful and true!

Revelations 12:11 " *And they overcame him [Satan]
by the **blood** of the Lamb, and
by the **word** of their testimony, and
they did not agape their lives to the death* "

Satan stirred up many persecutors of the early disciples. When a person put their hand up and stepped in the baptismal waters to die to themselves, they were literally volunteering themselves to have a shortened life span and to be the object of great persecution. The participation in the sufferings of Christ was counted to be a blessing and honour, to be worthy to receive the same treatment by men as Christ Jesus experienced. They were fearless. They had guts, and proved that they were unafraid of death. To die was merely an open door to enter into heaven. And so it is to this day!

Is this the cry in your heart? Lord Jesus, help me. I need you to set me free from my problems (_name them_) . Loose me from Satan's bondages. Forgive me for my sins (_name them_), and forgive me for the curse which come from the sins of my fathers which are in me! Lord you promised that if I confess my sins, then your blood will cleanse me from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:7-9). I am yours Father, totally yours. I offer myself afresh to you. I lay my life down and present myself to you as a living sacrifice. Search me oh God and know my heart today! Cleanse me oh God. Oh Holy Spirit have your way in me. Lead me, guide me into all righteousness!
I thank you Lord Jesus Christ for dying for my sins on the Cross. I thank you for the victory that submission and dying to myself brings. I thank you that your blood has never lost its cleansing power! I Thank you Lord for agaping me! Amen

Question 19: Can you cite some case studies?

Answer: YES - here are three.

(1) A man who had been dedicated to the Dragon as a baby

Born in Asia. This man called me and asked for help. I went around to his home. He was talking with me, when his wife appeared. He started shouting at her, then completely lost control of himself as he verbally

abused her (he seemed to oblivious to the fact that he had rung me to help him). His voice was as loud as a very loud house alarm which had been activated. I had to block my ears. Later, when she had cowered down onto the ground, and he calmed down, I suggested that he come with me to a public evangelistic meeting the following week. He did. After the meeting which was in the church hall, he wanted prayer for his problems. The minister could not discern anything. Many people were watching. I offered to help and the Lord revealed that the man had a dragon spirit which had entered into him as a baby. The dragon spirit manifested itself and **demonstrated** - the man fell to the ground face down. His body then began to writhe like a snake, and then he began to hiss. His tongue poked out about half a meter, then retracted. The man had long finger nails. He raised himself onto the tips of the finger nails, and his hands took the form of claws as a tiger's claws, and he continued to writhe and hiss . When it became obvious that the dragon spirit was only showing off (demonstrating) and it was not going to leave the man, I stopped the show by clicking my fingers. The man came to himself, stood up and asked: "What happened?"

The man was not repentant. He knew he had a need, but the spirit was so strong within him that it did not want to leave the man. The man did not want it to leave, so the dragon spirit stayed in him. To the best of my knowledge, this man still has the dragon spirit in him. He is now divorced from his wife.

- (2) A young, repentant man who became a Christian but had a powerful demonic Spirit of "Hee Goong" (inner strength gained by undergoing training to marshall the forces of yin and yang to produce extraordinary strength and control).

Some friends introduced this young man, in his late teens, to me. He told me about his problems - headaches, lack of concentration and some major interferences within him. He repented of doing the "Hee Goong" -breathing exercises - over an intensive fulltime three month training period. The strength this young man had developed was such that a large round and heavy stone used for grinding rice into flour could be dropped down onto his stomach and it would bounce back up without hurting him! He gained the strength from exercising his body to withstand the power of the demonic spirit as it grew stronger and stronger within him. The demon wrestled with the Holy Spirit until it left after around 20 minutes or so. The young man was in great pain during the tussle. He was exhausted when it left. I prayed for an in-filling of the Holy Spirit and he broke out in tongues (glossalia - speaking in tongues). His life was flooded with the peace of God.

This man became a powerful witness of Jesus Christ among his fellow students.

" He (Jesus Christ - the Holy Spirit) who is in you is greater than he (Satan) who is in the world " 1 John 4: 4b

(3) A young Christian man who was trained in martial arts.

This young university student was tall physically very strong. Whilst the Lord Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit was healing and delivering others, the demonic spirit of martial arts manifested itself before everyone. He stood up and said: " I want to kill you" He tore at his shirt and some buttons came off with the force and then sized me up for the kill. I said: "Have a go! I stood up and faced him with my hands down and held them behind my back. He lunged at me with a karate punch - but for some strange reason his arm did not come at me in a straight line, but in a curving motion. He ended-up not hitting me and the curving motion took him onto the ground. Whilst on the ground he took a swipe at my legs , but again he missed. I noticed that his fist started bleeding from a small cut.

I took authority over the demon and cast it out of him in Jesus' name. .

The man told his friends later that he tried to hit me, but couldn't. Then when he tried to hit my shins, he hit steel. I did not have any steel claddings on my feet. Praise the Lord for our body armour - it is real, it is literal! Jesus Christ protects us. **Ephesians 6:11.**

" There is no fear in agape [God's sacrificial, unselfish love which emanates from Him) but perfect agape cast out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in agape. We agape Him because He first agaped us " 1 John 4:18-19

Question 19: Are there any human cultures free from demonic influences?

Answer: NO! All cultures are infused with demonic thoughts and practices. Satanism is interwoven within every culture as in a piece of cloth. You cannot possibly take the demonic elements out of it without destroying the cloth/ culture!

Here are some examples. Anyone familiar with Asian cultures will know that worship of Buddha, or other gods is very common. Witness the myriads of Temples, each one dedicated to worshipping a god. Observation of the major holidays in Asia is to witness the demonstration of demons by devotees, such as the Hindu festival of Thaipusan where devotees carry heavy steel cages which are attached by steel hooks to their bodies. As the devotees walk, the weight of the cages stretch the skin as the cages bounce. Skews are placed through their tongues - there is no bleeding. The devotee's eyes are glazed because they are in a trance. Each devotee wants to thank their god for blessing them, and so they prepare themselves ritually to carry the kavadi.

Similar pagan practices are to be seen in Africa, South America, and wherever paganism rules. Witchdoctors hold people in their control. Magical arts are part and parcel of everyday living.

In Europe and America such superstitions are uncommon. But the demonic influences are still to be seen - witness the Masonic Lodges (initiation rites are made to Lucifer who is Satan), horoscope readings in popular magazines, the open practice of witchcraft and acceptance of palm readings, tarot cards, necromancy, séances, magicians, and popular acceptance of

Asian religious ideas such as Fung Shui, martial arts, Ying and Yang, acupuncture, Taoism, Buddhism and Hinduism in its many forms such as vegetarian food.

Christians are to have nothing to do with such evil. Christians have had their eyes opened and turned " *from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith in Me [Jesus]* " **Acts 26: 18**

We are to be revolutionaries in our thinking, just as Jesus Christ was and still is! We must not be complacent in our good life and worldly pleasures! We must embrace the Heavenly Culture with open arms and cling to it - for we are citizens of Heaven, not of this world! In the meantime we must share the truth as revealed to us with those who will and want to listen - to those who God has prepared for salvation from the foundations of this earth! We must toss overboard every thing which displeases our heavenly Father. We must sort through all cultic practices and cease immediately from participating in them ,and, withdraw ourselves from any of the associated thoughts and behavioral patterns associated with idolatry and magical arts. It is only if we have such a determined mind-set to please God that He will deliver us from all satanic bondages. Many of those bonds are strong indeed!

Question 20: What is the relationship between the Law of the Old Testament, which I find that I cannot keep, and Grace of the New Testament?

Answer: This answer is the crux of the difference between the Old and the New Testament.

The Old Testament- The Law (Salvation by Works) was concerned with dealing with sin through the Temple system which was established by God, YHWH. - it was His pattern of atonement (bringing mankind to be "at one with God"). It involved the sacrifice of animals before The High Priest, who made a sacrifice once a year on behalf of the nation, and a Levitical priesthood, who lived in the Tent of The Tabernacle precincts. Later, when the Israelites entered into the Promised Land, Canaan, The Temple of bricks and mortar, was built by King Solomon. It became the focal point where God was to be found. The ruling standard for defining sin was the great 10 Commandments. The tent Tabernacle and permanent Temple system was historically "temporary" even though it lasted about 1,500 years (from the Exodus ca.1445BC to the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ and His resurrection ca.33AD.

The New Testament. Grace (Salvation by Grace not by works **Ephesians 2:8**). God replaced this old sacrificial system when Jesus Christ died as the Passover Lamb for the whole world, all of mankind. Jesus' death and resurrection and ascension into Heaven was God's perfect and final solution to the old problem of sin. The temple system ended at the Cross of Calvary (witnessed by the supernatural tearing in half of the Temple veil to the Holy of Holies). **Matthew 27:51. Hebrews 6:13 - 12:29.**

God provided the answer to sin by allowing His only Son, Jesus Christ to ransom himself for us, to pay the penalty for our sins - by dying in our place!

Jesus Christ uttered the Greek words Himself - "*Telelestia !* " - *It is Finished!*"

The word has two major meanings:

(1) That the Temple and priesthood system ended - Jesus Christ is The High Priest **Hebrews 9:11** see also **Hebrews Chapters 7-10**. The priestly system was replaced by the royal priesthood of all believers **1 Peter 2:9** where the male Head of the household is the prophet, priest and King of his own household **Ephesians 5**

(2) The price for all our sins has been paid-up in full! Jesus Christ has died in our place, as a substitute. All our sins have been forgiven! The debt has been retired! We can walk as free men and women! Free from the burden of sins. All we have to do is to lay all our sins at the foot of the Cross! **Romans 6: 6-7** We have been purchased by God **1 Corinthians 6:19-20**, to be His sons and daughters **John 1: 12**. We have been set free from sin! **Romans 6:18**

We all sin (try and keep any Law and you will discover that we not only become legalistic, but worse still, we discover that the harder we try to be a stickler to the Law the more we discover that we are Law breakers! The Law condemns us to know that we are painfully, sinners! I am a sinner. I cannot, in my own strength keep the Law or any parts of it! I am doomed to failure! Read **Romans Chapter 7** where Paul under the power of The Holy Spirit reveals the desperateness of a person who wants above all else to be righteous, but in their own strength! The break-through comes by the realisation that Jesus Christ is the answer! He has done all that is necessary for our salvation - at the Cross! All I have to do is to acknowledge this, and accept the gift of Grace! Here is the anguished cry of a desperate man....

" O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? I thank God - through Jesus Christ our Lord!There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the Law of sin ad death" Romans 7:24, 25a - 8:1-2

Question 21: What protection do I have from demonic invasion into my body, the Temple of The Holy Spirit?
1 Corinthians 3:16-17; 6:19-20

Answer:

1. The Blood of Jesus Christ

The Blood of the lamb was sprinkled over the lintels and doorway of the exilic Hebrews Exodus Chapter 6. Each household was to do this, eat the carcass and be dressed ready for immediate departure. If the household was too small to eat the meat of the lamb, then they had to join together with another household. At midnight, the angel of the Lord, an Angel of death passed over each household. If the blood was not seen, then the first born male would die, both man and beast. There was a great "wail" in Egypt. We can assume that the Hebrews were obedient to the commands, and the Egyptians were ignorant of them (Pharaoh, being the "enslaver" refused to let the children of Israel go despite 10 representations and miracles from almighty God by His servants Moses and Aaron).

2. The Calvary Cross of Jesus Christ

Jesus Christ accomplished all that is necessary for the complete salvation of mankind, and in particular, anyone God has called to salvation. The Greek word for salvation is " sozo " which also means deliverance. This means that He took upon Himself, on The Cross, all the world's sicknesses, problems, sins. **Isaiah Chapters 52: 13 to Chapter 53.** He also crushed Satan's power over mankind **Genesis 3:15, 1 Corinthians 15: 27** Jesus Christ also said on the Cross " It is Finished!" (refer to the above discussion in Question 20).

" And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall set you free." John 8:32
" Therefore, if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed" John 8:36
 Free from all sin
 Free from all bondages
 Free from all illnesses

The problem is what we understand in what has been accomplished at The Cross by Jesus Christ has a direct bearing on how much we appropriate! In other words, there is a direct co-relation between our understand and how much we appropriate.
 Regrettably, few of us have been taught the fullness of God's Grace! If we see in part we receive in part. **James 1: 22-25**

" Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God" Romans 10:17

If we need more faith then we read more of God's word ! A simple solution to a massive problem! Step by step, we can increase our faith in Jesus Christ and His accomplishments!

3. **The Holy Spirit** His Mission statement is three-fold: to convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgement **John 16: 8, 8-11**
Of sin because we need to believe in Jesus Christ - that is, believing is to obey His words without reserve, unhesitatingly, totally.
Of righteousness because we need to be under His Cloud, under the Holy Spirit to be totally led by Him under His covering.
Of judgement because we are all sinners and are constantly reminded of our own human frailties and the need to carry our own Cross, and to carry the dying Christ about in us in weakness so that we can know His strength.

" There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death. " **Romans 8:1-2**

" For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are the sons of God " **Romans 8:14**

4. **The destruction of self and participation in the three Baptisms of Jesus Christ Matthew 3:11**
(1) Baptism in Water by Full immersion

Dying to self - through being fully submersed in water as in a burial - participating in the death of Jesus Christ. The rising out of the water symbolises the

Dying to the world , and

Dying to the sin of Adam (the death "genes") passed on through Adam's sin) **and sins** (my own personal sins and the sins of my f forefathers - such as idolatry - breaking the third Commandment)

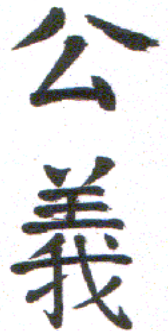
Our baptism in repentance is literally putting on Christ and all that He is! **Galatians 3:27**

(2) Baptism in the Holy Spirit - After Jesus' baptism in Water, the Holy Spirit came upon Jesus in the visible form of a dove and alighted upon Him. Jesus Christ was the both led **Matthew 4:1** **Luke** and thrown **Mark** into the Wilderness where He was tempted by Satan. This is God's way of telling us that Jesus Christ was no longer under control of His earthly parents, and was now totally under control of God, His Father, via the Holy Spirit. .

In this way we can live continually in The Spirit **Romans 8:1**, **Galatians 5:25** and be continually led by The Spirit **Romans 8:14** and not be driven by our flesh or soulish behaviour! **Romans 8:5**, **1 Corinthians 2:14,15**.

(3) Baptism in Fire - The Continued walk - being led by the Holy Spirit - a walk of continuing holiness, through the "fire" of affliction - persecution for His names' sake. The Holy Spirit reveals through the Acts of the apostles, Letters of Peter, Hebrews, and Revelations that persecution is a reasonable expectation for those walking the Calvary Road. The Chinese word for "righteousness", " Goong Yee" (below) is used by Chinese translators in Genesis 6 to describe Noah who was the only one in the whole world who was "righteous" in God's eyes. The words summarises the Christian walk being led and under the control of the Holy Spirit. The word as two pictures -

"GOONG" which has the picture of "Eight" over the word "public" (or world) "YEE" - the top word is Lamb over Me



The interpretation is simply and literally: 'Eight in the whole world have the Lamb over Me'

The significance is that because of the righteousness of one man, Noah, he and his three sons and their wives, were considered to be "righteousness" in God's eyes and worthy to be saved. Noah spent 120 years building the ARK, and preached a message of "righteousness". **2 Peter 2:5**. (The Lamb of God whose shed blood takes away the sins of the world ie. Takes away my sins. This Lamb is also a KING who is coming as the Messiah to rule as King of Kings and Lord of Lords).

Only one family, one household, was saved out of the whole world. Salvation is not for the many, but for the few! " *For many are called but few chosen*" **Matthew 20:16**.

Salvation is also by households **Acts 16:31** Salvation is also for individuals, most of whom have households!

The New Testament teaches us that The Holy Spirit (Spirit of God, of Jesus Christ) is the cloud which guided the children of Israel in the wilderness. **1 Corinthians Chapter 10.** Can you see the connection?

When we are Baptised in The Holy Spirit, He will lead and guide and strengthen us as we walk through the "wilderness" of this world. He will teach us, He will protect us, from all of Satan's wiles if we stay under The Lamb and covered by His blood!

The salvation I have, as head of the household, extends to my Household/ family.

Acts 2:31-33, 16:31 see also Acts 10, 1 Corinthians Chapter 7

Whilst I am saved by Grace Ephesians 2:8 , **obedience to the commandments of God is essential for our continuing salvation .**

I have a bath or shower every day for personal and public hygiene reasons. I may also put on a deodorant. That is for my body. But what can cleanse a guilty conscience - my spirit ? God has provided the cleansing agent - **The Blood of Jesus Christ**, The Lamb of God. **It is His blood** which cleanses me of all spiritual pollution of the flesh so that I may enter into Heaven. **It is His blood**, which sterilises my body and spirit 2 Corinthians 7:1 , which has been contaminated by sin. Thus cleansed, I am holy. My mission in life is to be Holy or Righteous !

We must live our lives as Christians being led by the Holy Spirit, and Him alone, on the road to Calvary, and through to Heaven !

" *You are of God, little children, and have overcome them [spirit of the Antichrist who is already in the world vs.3], because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world* " 1 John 4:4

End.