

## INTRODUCTION

I ought to explain at the outset that this book is ideally meant to be read alongside my Book 9 entitled “*Deliverance ministry – casting out demons*”. This first book in that duo is about the world, the flesh and the Devil and is intended to look at our wider battles against our sinful flesh nature or “old man”, plus the evils of the world system. My aim is to view those two battles as a foundation for going on to look at our third battle against the Devil and his army of demons with whom we also have to contend.

The sections on the flesh and the world are in many ways simpler than the subject of demons and are fairly self explanatory. However, I need to make clear that when I go on to discuss demons in this book I am doing so solely from the perspective of *resisting* them, and am not addressing the separate subject of *casting them out*. That is what Book 9 is all about.

So, resisting demons is something we *all* have to do, not just some of us, and it relates to demons who are on the outside of us, not the inside. They are seeking to influence, undermine, tempt, deceive and distract all of us in a host of ways to render us ineffective and unsuccessful as disciples. So, when I discuss resisting demons in this book I am addressing a problem *we all have* and I am not talking here about casting them out, which is a problem that only applies to some people, not all.

A demon can only be cast out of a person if the demon has acquired the right to be inside them. From that vantage point they can do a lot more harm and exert far more influence over a person than is possible when the demon is only on the outside “whispering into our mind”. That is what they do to all of us, including those who do not to have a demon on the inside.

But, if you are fortunate enough to be in that position, and don’t be too quick to conclude that you are, you still have a big problem to which you need to pay a lot of attention. You must not suppose that because a demon is “only” on the outside of you it can’t do much harm or lead you astray. It most assuredly can, which is why you need to give this whole issue such close attention.

However, to succeed in that third battle against demons you also need to be aware of and paying close attention to the first two battles which we all face, against our own sinful flesh nature and the sinful world system, both of which are major problems in themselves. So, they need to be dealt with, even for their own sake, but also to get you into the best position to be able to deal with your third battle, which is against the demons.

If, however, you have a demon or demons *inside* you then you need to read Book 9 but I strongly emphasise that Book 7 is an essential preparatory step before reading Book 9. There are many vital points made in Book 7 which I don’t repeat in Book 9. Yet you need to know them if you are to successfully understand Book 9 and either engage in deliverance ministry with others, or seek it for yourself.

In other words, Book 9 pre-supposes that you have read and understood Book 7 and are therefore ready to move on to the more specialist, though by no means rare, problem of people’s need to be delivered from demons. That means to have them cast out from inside of us, rather than just resisting those who are on the outside of us. Therefore, my advice is effectively to treat the two books as one long book in two parts.

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