

Keeping Your Deliverance

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I. Introduction:

-Colossians 1:13

-The basis of deliverance is **truth**: "and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free" -John 8:32

-If the Baptism in the Holy Spirit teaches us anything, it teaches us that the devil is real and there are evil spirits out to defeat us! Wouldn't it be a good idea to know how to deal with them?

II. Two Questions

1. How do I know I'm completely free?

Like we know everything else in the Kingdom--by faith. We know when we ask the Father we get what we ask for.

-Luke 11:13

2. Where do the demons go?

-Who cares?

-We just want them to get away from us.

-Mostly we deal with oppression, not possession.

-Evil spirits want to be embodied; we don't want them to find a home with us! -Matthew 12:43-45

III. Four Blocks to Deliverance

1. Lack of true repentance

-Turn around; metanoia

-A rebel is never repentant

-Confession should be as wide as the transgression

2. Failure to confess certain sins (Adultery, abortion, impurity, etc.)

-When you confess to God, you are not telling him anything he doesn't already know!

-When you confess it's for your sake and not his.

3. Failure to forgive others. -Mark 11:25-26

-Forgiveness is enlightened self interest.

-Resolve to not carry resentments any longer. They hurt you.

-Forgive those closest to you.

4. Failure to Follow good advice.

-Commit yourself to live according to wisdom.

-Daniel 4:27:

"Therefore, O king, let my counsel be acceptable to you; break off your sins by practicing righteousness, and your

iniquities by showing mercy to the oppressed, that there may perhaps be a lengthening of your tranquility.”

-Nebuchadnezzar didn't follow Daniel's advice. Let's not be as foolish as he was. As you know, Nebuchadnezzar lost his mind.

IV. Some Ways to Keep Your Deliverance

1. Yield to the Lordship of Jesus in **every** area of your life.
2. Be **continuously** filled with the Holy Spirit.
 - Ephesians 5:18
 - The Baptism in the Holy Spirit is meant to be a river and not a puddle experience.
 - The Holy Spirit reveals the enemy to us.
3. Live by the Word of God
 - If the Bible is our standard we need to read it every day!
 - To live Christianly we must live biblically.
 - Hebrews 4:12
4. Put on the whole armor of God. -Ephesians 6:10-18
 - We do some things; God does some things.
 - We do the standing!
 - Important: The helmet of salvation. It protects the mind and our way of thinking. Too many of us are pessimistic, depressed, and lacking in hope.
 - We need to throw off negative thinking. Pessimism is a denial of faith. -Romans 8:28
 - Hope**: a confident, unwavering expectation of good.
5. Cultivate right relationships with God, your family, your community, your friends, etc.
6. Cultivate right fellowship.
 - Christians are meant to dwell with fellow Christians.
 - Community is brothers and sisters together; families together and communities linked together.
 - We thrive in an environment where people share the same spiritual goals. We absolutely need to be around people of faith, hope, and love. -Hebrews 10: 23-25
7. Make Jesus central! -John 12:31-32
 - Our job is to lift Jesus up!
 - In our lives, in our homes, in our community, in our gatherings, in our church services, in our jobs we must lift Jesus higher.