

## Potential Access Doors to Demonic Invasion

John Shuey

While I was going to State College to receive training with the Navigators, I managed a small gas station. In the winter, the station would become infested with mice. I would see them running all over the place. People would buy candy bars from the machine and find a bite or two has already been eaten. You might ask, "How did they get there?" Well, the building, which stood right beside a farmers' field, had not been well constructed. The door to the storage area was a few inches too short leaving a gap large enough for mice to come in out of the cold and have a bite of chocolate.

Demon spirits sometimes find gaps in our spiritual buildings, which give them access to our lives and enable them to set up a base of operation in us. This paper will discuss a number of access points. We discuss these access points for two reasons. First, they will show ways in which we may have given access points to a spirit in our past so that we can expel the unwanted intruder and close the door to future access. Secondly, we want to highlight areas to avoid so that we don't give the enemy access to our life in some new way.

As well as showing common doors of access, you will also be shown how the Lord has provided victory in each of these areas so that His victory becomes your victory. Please note that much of our victory comes from God's Word. We must allow God through His Word to change the way we think in order to walk in victory. If any of these doors of access exist in your life, ask the Lord to give you Scriptures that will enable you to view life the way He sees it.

### Access point #1: *Generational Curses*

A generational curse is a curse that enters a family line and moves through the family line in more than one person.

One example of a generational curse is the family of King David. Take 2 Samuel 11- David and Bathsheba. The incident took place in the spring, the time that kings went to war. David, however, did not accompany his troops into battle. Instead, he stayed behind. He committed adultery and later had the woman's husband killed when David discovered that she, Bathsheba, had been impregnated. Murder and sexual indiscretion are continued in 2 Samuel 13-Amnon and Tamar. It continues in 2 Samuel 16:21-22-Absalom's open immorality. Weakness with women continues in 1 Kings 11:1-6-Solomon's wives. Can you see the trend?

In many cases, demonic spirits enter a family line and cause a cluster of sins in a family. The spirits do not necessarily go to every descendent or even raise their ugly heads in every generation. I believe they go to the person with the greatest tendency to give in to their particular variety of temptation.

This is why some families have sins that seem to dominate their line. It may be anger, rage, or sexual immorality. It can be any type of sin or could even be disease. I'm not discounting genetic weakness, but we must consider the demonic as we seek to assist people in gaining victory in their life.

How do demons enter a family? Demons enter a family in three basic ways. First, is through sin as seen in David's family. David or some ancestor engaged in sexual sin, which gave access to this family. Secondly, curses spoken by an ancestor. Just as curses and unbiblical beliefs affect individuals, they can also affect an entire family line. Lastly, are oaths and covenants. There may be those in our family lines who have made some type of oath, covenant or pact that gives legal rights to demons to attack the family. This happens when someone participates in occult organizations such as Freemasonry. There is power in our words.

The good news is generational curses can be broken. Galatians 3:13 tells us Jesus became a curse for us. 1 John 3:8 says Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil. 2 Corinthians 5:17 says we have become new, the old is passed away. We can gain victory over sin.

1Kings 15:3-5 we have seen how David had a negative impact upon his family, but he also had a positive impact as well. First, David walked in such spiritual integrity that God held back judgments on subsequent generations. Secondly, God held David as the measuring rod for royal holiness. For all his faults, David became the standard upon which to be measured. You can begin to have this type of impact on your family. As your life turns around, you can see your family begin to move in a new direction.

### Access Point #2: Rejection

Many people in society have been rejected. This rejection can come from parents, spouses, co-workers, anybody. Demonic spirits take advantage of the vulnerability of rejected people.

People who have been rejected may speak word curses over themselves. A spirit may inspire a rejected person to speak untruths, such as "I'm not loved." If we believe these words, they become word curses that may give demonic spirits access to our lives. People who have been rejected may believe word curses spoken over them by someone else. If a person embraces the words of a curse, a demon spirit can take advantage by creating circumstances that will confirm that assessment and because the person believes the curses to be true, they will not fight it with the truth of God. A rejected person may allow open doors because of vulnerability. They might look for love in the wrong places and become victims of sexual sin or abuse, which produces further feelings of rejection. An example of this is seen in John 4 with the woman at the well. A rejected person may become bound by unforgiveness and bitterness. Anger gives place to the devil. Rejection may cause a person to live in fear, to doubt that good can happen to them, or even to hate themselves, or a host of other sins. These can become access points to bondage. Rebellion often accompanies rejection. Rejected people often reject others. This cycle can infect many generations.

The good news is that God loves everyone (John 3:16). Jesus came so that we can become sons of God (Eph 1, John 1:12). God will take us even if our own parents reject us (Psalms 21:10). Jesus has given us his word so that we can have a divine nature and He gives us new thinking patterns. We know that we are accepted (2 Peter 1:4). We have been made part of a family (1 Cor. 12).

We have a purpose in God. We have been made sons and daughters of God. There is no reason to feel rejected. He will give us scriptures to combat every unbiblical belief in that area of our life. Every time you are tempted to believe that you have no value, ask God to bring His Word back to you and give you scriptures that will communicate the truth.

Access Point #3: Victimization and Trauma. Some people are victimized as a result of being rejected or by trauma.

The key point concerning victimization is that victimized people can fall prey to the enemy because they don't resist the devil well in their emotionally, and sometimes physically, weakened condition. There are three ways that victimization can give demons access to your life. One is as a result of being victimized a person may fail to forgive. They can get involved in a cycle like the following: unforgiveness>bitterness>rage>violence> and even murder. Second, in the case of incest, abuse, or rape the victim may become vulnerable to false guilt, which can give access to demonic intruders. Lastly, the abused can become an abuser.

There is remedy to victimization. You need to forgive, repent of wrong reaction, renounce wrong reactions, and expel demons. Isaiah 61:1 says Jesus was sent to bind up the broken hearted. Counseling may be needed.

After trauma a person can experience some fear, loss of hope, unforgiveness and anger, and vulnerability to other sins. We can be very vulnerable to the attack of the enemy at a time like this because our resistance has been weakened due to physical and emotional strain. Fear may cause a self-fulfilling prophecy or it may function as a curse because we have embraced our fears as truth. Our fear may give access to a spirit of fear. Losing hope can cause us to give in to the enemy's plan of a lack of

fruitfulness and depression. Some people become angry with others or God when they have been traumatized. This can lead to anger, bitterness and more. We may engage in other sins such as alcohol or drugs in order to make us feel better.

Remember the devil is no gentleman. He doesn't make it easy on us because we are weak. In fact, he revels in the fact that he can get us while we are down.

We can gain victory over trauma the same way we overcome victimization. We recognize Jesus provides victory for all. We have no fear because Jesus is stronger than Satan. Romans 8:28 says all things work together for our good. Ephesians 1:1 tells us God is working to make everything conform to his plan. These truths make it possible to move in faith. We can trust God and not lose hope. He is a good God and is working His plan.

Access Point #4: Willful Disobedience. We live in rebellion if we refuse to obey God.

Deuteronomy 28:15 tells us rebellion brings curses. When we rebel against God, we also give Satan a base of operation in our life out of which he can advance his kingdom. We may receive spirits that cooperate with our sins. This does not excuse our sin. Sin is sin and we are responsible when we do it. However, if we have a demonic spirit residing in us, we may have more difficulty gaining victory over sin.

If you have rebelled against God, and I believe we all have, I want to declare to you that Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil. We can be forgiven and changed. Remember Isaiah 61. Jesus came to take broken people and make them fruitful oaks of righteousness. You need to seek forgiveness, repent, renounce and expel. Our sins can be forgiven (1 John 1:9-2:2). Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil (1 John 3:8). Every time you sin, repent and say, "I take back all ground in my life because I \_\_\_\_\_." Victory will be yours.

Access Point #5: Lack of forgiveness/bitterness.

Inability to forgive and bitterness are often the most difficult struggle that we encounter in dealing with our past. Almost everyone has been wronged. WE struggle to forgive because we desire to see people pay for what they have done or for what we perceive they have done.

How does God feel about unforgiveness? Jesus explains that if we do not forgive those who have sinned against us, God will not forgive us. (Matthew 6: 14-15). We cannot experience the fullness of God's grace and walk in the fullness of His plan, if we fail to forgive. This is seen also illustrated in the parable of the unmerciful servant. These scriptures clearly communicate that God's blessing will only come for those who forgive. Why? Certain sins sadden the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is saddened when we fail to forgive because it is Gods nature to forgive. (Ephesians 4:30-32).

Everything that we did, thought or said prior to coming to Christ is tainted by sin. Isaiah said that our righteous is as good as filthy rags. Yet He forgave it all. God has forgiven us every thing in Christ. It is His nature to forgive. God desires us to forgive as well. When we are born again, the Holy Spirit came into our life to make us like Jesus.

When we fail to forgive, we make the Holy Spirit sad because we have failed to be like Jesus. When we fail to forgive, Satan may gain ground in our life (2 Cor. 2:10-11). Satan desires to thwart the work of God and to gain access to us so we will not fulfill the purposes of God in our life. When we fail to forgive, he has outwitted us. He has deceived us into believing that we do not need to forgive and let the offending party off the hook. This unforgiveness can lead to other sin thus giving a base of operation to the devil in our life. In addition, that person we fail to forgive becomes an idol because we hold them in higher esteem than God because we allow our anger or hatred to be more important than obeying Him and being like Him.

### Access Point #6: Anger

Have you ever been angry and said things that you didn't mean? Would you agree that you were not in control at that moment? If we were not in control, who was? I often say you cannot reason with an angry man because he's not in control. I don't know when we cross the line of control, but Ephesians 4:26-27 says that we should not let the sun go down on our wrath. In other words, deal with it quickly. He says that if we do not deal with it, we will give the devil a place or base of operation.

Of course, anger sets us up for other kinds of bases of operation as well. We can get into bitterness, rage, violence, and even murder. An angry person does foolish things. (Proverbs 14:17) When we do foolish things, we create an access point. Anger leads to evil (Psalms 37:8). It is the door, the place of access to evil.

The good news is that the Holy Spirit comes to live inside us to make us new (Galatians 5:22-23). Jesus knows how to forgive (Luke 23:24). He forgave those who put Him on the cross. You can forgive and overcome anger with His help.

### Access Point #7: Fear and Doubt.

Fear is common. Joshua 1:6-9 God told Joshua to be courageous. Why do you suppose God told him that? He was afraid. His task was huge. Therefore, God had to encourage Joshua to overcome the natural fear that comes from such a situation. 2 Timothy 1:6-7 Timothy had backed off from using his gifts because Paul had been imprisoned for his faith. He gave in to fear.

The issue is not that we experience fear, but it is what we do with that fear. Judges 4:4-10 Barak failed to go to battle without Deborah because of fear. It paralyzed him. When we allow fear to paralyze us, we give a base of operation of the devil. Job 3:25 says that what Job feared came upon him. It's a curse. As we fear, we exercise faith that what we fear will happen. Because we expect that feared event to happen, we fail to resist the devil when he seeks to bring calamity into our lives. We allow the devil to bring a negative event into our life and we give a door of access to the devil to gain a measure of control in our life.

There are spirits that manifest themselves in the area of fear. (See Romans 8:15, 2 Timothy 1:7) There are many types of spirits of fear: general spirits of fear, fear of failure, fear of men, fear of rejection, etc. A spirit of fear may gain access through sin, a curse or through our family line.

Unbelief is very similar to fear. Fear dreads that bad circumstances may occur in our life. Unbelief may cause fear, because it stimulates us to doubt that God will fulfill His promises in our life.

Unbelievers will not be in heaven (Revelation 21:8). Unbelievers are corrupt (Titus 1:15). If we don't trust God, we will trust ourselves or someone or something other than God. This opens us up to the deeds of the carnal nature described in Galatians 5:16-21. If we engage in these deeds, we sin and thus can be called corrupt. In addition, many of the deeds of the flesh provide the enemy with access to our life creating a whole new level of problems.

We can't please God without faith (Hebrews 11:6). We gain access to the grace of God by faith. We are saved by faith. Unbelief robs us of the blessings that God desires to give us and provides Satan with access to our life. If we fail to believe that God will use us, we will be much more open to a demon spirit coming along side of us and lying to us about our worth. As this lie and others become believable to us, we might pronounce a curse upon ourselves. We cannot please God in this state.

Our unbelief can motivate us to take control of our life. These decisions can have devastating impacts on our life and future generations. Unbelief can open the door to the demonic. We have frequently dealt with spirits of unbelief in our deliverance ministry.

The good news is we are safe as we dwell in His presence (Psalm 91). As we trust the Lord, He makes us a threshing sledge to destroy our enemies (Isaiah 41: 9-16). AS believers we can live by the faith of the Lord Jesus. Instead of our faith, He exercises His faith in us (Galatians 2:20). God

produces faith in us by speaking “rhema” words to us (Rom. 10:17). We can accomplish everything that God has called us to do. He is the strength of our life (Philippians 4:13). We don’t have to tremble. We can be a person of the Word and have success (Joshua 1).

#### Access Point #8 Witchcraft and the Occult.

Deuteronomy 18:10-12-As you can see from this passage, witchcraft comes in all shapes and sizes. The mention of sacrificial system reminds us that we are not only talking about witchcraft, but Satanism. Witchcraft and Satanism include the casting of spells and seeking to determine the future (means of determining the future apart from God and his Word).

Some branches of witchcraft/occult are Wicca, Freemasonry (which includes Rainbow Girls, Eastern Stars, DeMolay and Shiners), Pow Wow doctoring which uses phrases and verses from the Bible as incantations to bring about healing. In addition, some people consult psychic hotlines and read horoscopes as they seek to know their future. Some New Age practices also practice witchcraft and occult “arts”.

Children have been targeted. TV programs like Pokemon and books like the Harry Potter series emphasize differing aspects of witchcraft and the occult. Parents should keep an eye on the kind of books, magazines, video games, card games, and TV programs their children read, play or watch.

Leviticus 20:6 tells us God said that those who practice such things should be cut off from the people of God. At best this means they should be disfellowshipped. It appears God might have been suggesting they be put to death. Exodus 22:18 says sorcery was punishable by death. God felt a need to deal harshly with such sin in order to deter others from engaging in these wicked practices.

With the exception of the soul-driven aspects of witchcraft (1 Samuel 28:1-8), the power behind it is the work of an evil spirit. Witchcraft is mentioned in the list of deeds of the flesh in Galatians 5. The reason is that manipulation is a form of witchcraft. The purpose of witchcraft is to utilize means to get others to do what you want them to do. This can be done through soul-driven manipulation or by means of incantations and spells. If we utilize manipulation, we may open the door to demonic invasion in our lives.

1 Corinthians 10:21-22 tells us whenever we worship any god but God, we worship demons. This is especially true when we engage in the worship of some deity or an object. The pagans worship earth or mother earth. The Chinese and Eastern arts tap into other sources. Many New Age practitioners get hooked up with one or more of these demonically inspired philosophies. In some martial arts, you receive a mantra, which often involves the worship of other gods. This can be true of yoga and TM.

1 Timothy says even false doctrines are the doctrines of demons. This means that when people depend upon leisure, entertainment, money or fame, or false religious teachings, demonic spirits have ensnared them.

The initiation rites and practices of some types of witchcraft involve the taking of oaths and pronouncing curses upon themselves and their family for violation of these oaths. These may include calling down sickness if you reveal the organization’s secrets or if you leave the group. Some persons involved in organizations which practice witchcraft, bring curses on themselves and their families by dedicating them to whatever organizations they have joined.

The good news is Jesus arose from the grave victor over the devil. He made a public spectacle of all the demonic forces (Colossians 2:13-15). Jesus Christ paid the price for every sin that we have committed because it was “nailed to the cross”. When Jesus said, “It is finished,” He meant it. He paid the penalty for all our sins. Our sin and our sinful lifestyle can be in our past (Colossians 2:14). The truth will set you free (John 8:32). When we walk in the spirit we will not gratify the cravings of the sinful nature. Witchcraft is among the sins mentioned that will not be gratified. We can have victory over witchcraft by the power of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:16-23).

You need to confess and repent of all involvement with witchcraft or the occult. Renounce, that is declare that you no longer desire to be involved with and break the power of, any covenant or pact that you have made by being involved in witchcraft or the occult. Expel demonic intruders that have gained access to your life because of your involvement with witchcraft.

#### Access Point #9: *Sexual Sin*

Involvement in sexual sin involves: fornication (pre marital sex); adultery (sex with a married person that you are not married to or when you as a married person have sexual relations with any person other than your spouse); masturbation; lust; pornography (this includes the internet and lewd discussions in chat rooms or any where else); homosexuality; bestiality (sexual relations with an animal); sadomasochism (sexual relations that involve inflicting of pain during sexual relations); sexual immorality also includes incubus and succubus (sexual relations with a demonic spirit). I mention that last one so you can know that you can have freedom from every one of these and from perversities that have not been mentioned. We might include frigidity in marriage. You can engage in perversity within marriage. God will put limits on relations even within marriage when we seek to walk in righteousness.

As with all sin, sexual sin can lead to other forms of sin. David's adultery led to lies and murder. It also gave entrance to sexual sins among his family. Sexual sin provides a point of access to demons. We have people in our society that cannot be "satisfied" unless they engage in greater and greater depths of perversity. Others have become addicted to immorality. Much, if not all, of this addiction is demonic.

Paul indicates that sexual sin is unique because when we sin sexually, we sin against our body (1 Corinthians 6:18-20). Other sins seem to impact the body. I damage my body when I take drugs, which can become an access point for demons. Therefore, sexual immorality must sin against our bodies in a more profound way. Let me explain using a physical illustration. In our sex education classes, we tell people that when they engage in sexual activity with someone, they have sex with everyone that person has had sex with in terms of potential AIDS and STDs. This is also true in the spiritual realm. Something happens when you engage in sex with someone other than your marriage partner. The sexual contact produces a soul tie with the person. When you develop a soul tie with a person, you become connected with that person in a unhealthy, soulish way. A soul tie can open up a door of access for demonic spirits to move from one person to the other.

We may be able to have soul ties through other activities as well. Some people have powerful soulish abilities to get other people to do what they want them to do. It is the manipulative part of witchcraft that we discussed earlier. At times a person may become attached to the manipulative person. It is a soul tie. This can happen even in ministry. If a minister engages in their ministry by their own natural abilities, that is the flesh, when people become drawn to them, they are not drawn to the Lord by the power of the Holy Spirit. Rather they become drawn to the source of the ability that does "ministry". A soul tie develops. This is extremely dangerous on two counts. If a person persists in "ministering" by the power of their own flesh, they place themselves in a position to be vulnerable to demonic attacks. Secondly, those persons banded together with them through soul ties become vulnerable to demonic spirits because soul ties can become doors of access to demonic spirits.

The good news is Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil. We can learn by the grace of God to say no to ungodliness. We can walk in victory regardless of our past. We can live differently (Titus 2:11-14). In this way, he can restore us so we can engage in Christian marriage. He can save marriages. In some cases God may bring physical healing in areas that have been caused by sin.

To deal with sexual sin you need to confess your sexual sin, renounce your involvement in sexual sin, break soul ties, and expel demons.

