

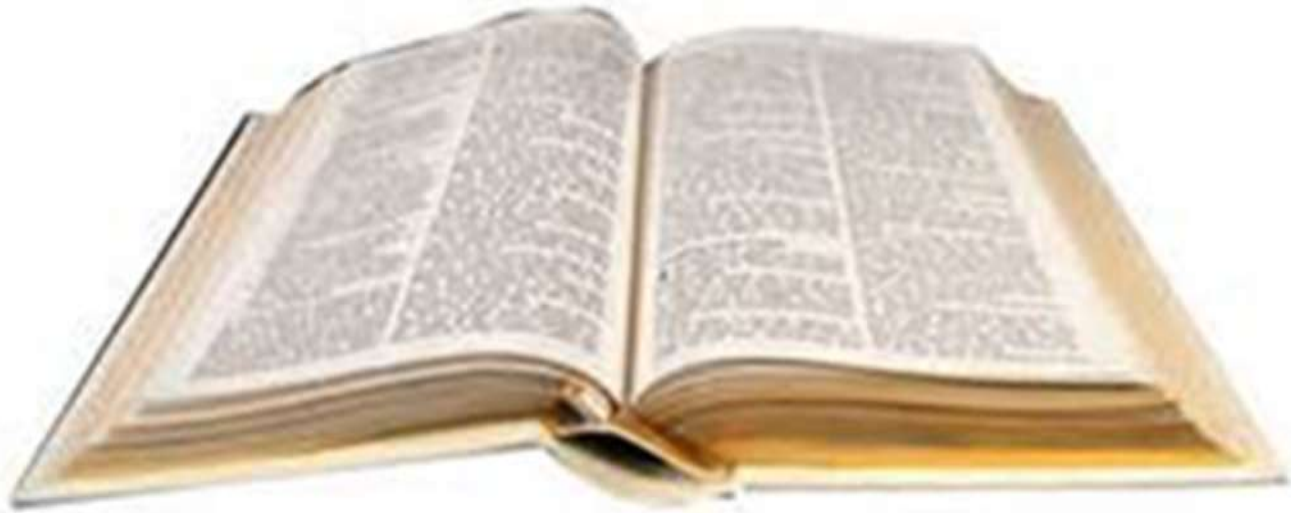
What do you see ?



The picture (outside) doesn't change
but the perception (inside) does.



Luke 11:14 -28



What do you see ?

‘blind unbelief’

2 issues are in this passage from Luke but they have the same cause – They refuse to believe what they see.

1, By Beelzebul, the prince of demons,
he is driving out demons.

2, Others tested him by asking for a sign from heaven.

Why do they not see?

Who do they think is in charge of their lives?

‘Demons’

“No sensible person believes in them nowadays!”

Jesus did! And dealt with them too!

Their Origin

They were created and therefore were originally good. Fallen angels linked to Satan’s fall are now called unclean/evil spirits.

Their Actions

They are Satan’s workforce – he too is limited to one place. They can exist on their own but seem to have more power to mess things up if occupying a physical body’s capabilities
(here it affected the man’s speech)

Their Removal

Jesus has authority and power to expel them and their influence This is also given to believers cf. Luke 10:17

Set people free !

‘Demons’

Can Christian believers be demon–possessed?

Some eg. Derek Prince –say “Yes” others say “No”
It could be an issue of definitions. The word usually used is “demonised” , sometimes “having an evil spirit”

Perhaps we can go this far to say:-

If you are ‘born again’ – the central place of your being is for the Holy Spirit . But the devil will take anything you give him ..

eg. sexual immorality, violent temper, occult practices – fortune telling/reading give him a “foothold”

Ephesians 4:27. 1 Peter 5:8

Beelzebul

Who is this?

Beelzebul, the prince of demons = Satan

Why has he got this name?

Beel-zebul = “Lord of the house/ high place”

The Jews changed it from

Baal zebul to Baal zebub

= (disparagingly) “lord of flies”

Jesus' answer

Jesus knew their thoughts and said to them: "Any kingdom divided against itself will be ruined, and a house divided against itself will fall. If Satan is divided against himself, how can his kingdom stand? I say this because you claim that I drive out demons by Beelzebul.

What do they see?

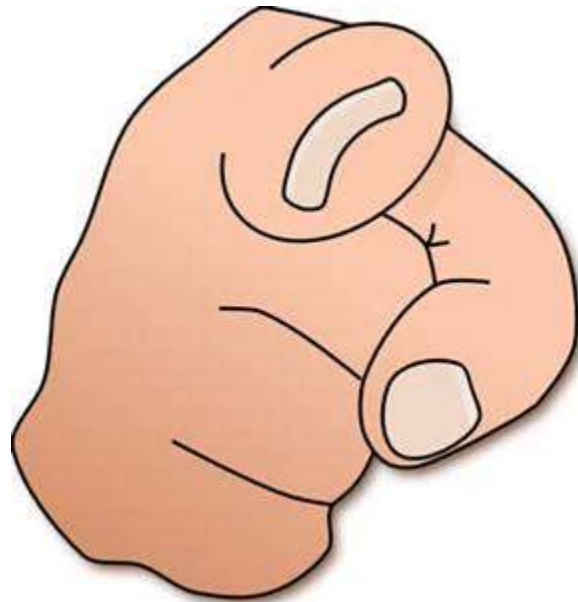
He is defeating Satan's kingdom so ...

"If what you say is true then Satan is fighting himself – he will destroy himself ... and you don't believe that."

Jesus' answer part 2

Now if I drive out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your followers drive them out? So then, they will be your judges.

“The same criticism will apply to your own people when they cast out demons... they will be your judges and declare you are wrong!”



How does he do it?

But if I drive out demons by the finger of God,
then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

Cf. Exodus 8:19 Moses 3rd plague of gnats

Finger of God = Holy Spirit in Matthew's account

Therefore this is the most terrible blasphemy.
They are very close to committing the unforgivable sin ...
in giving 'credit' to Satan for the Holy Spirit's work

**But the Kingdom age has arrived
whether you accept it or not.**

A Clear Illustration and a Strong Warning

When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own house, his possessions are safe. But when someone stronger attacks and overpowers him, he takes away the armour in which the man trusted and divides up his plunder. Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters.

Strong man guarding his house = (ie. Beelzebul) Satan

Someone stronger = Jesus

Armour = his weapons and power (sin, fear, lies)

Plunder = his possessions = people, ideas + systems

Jesus' Warning !

**“When it comes to Satan’s kingdom or mine
you have to take sides!**

You are on his side, the wrong one”

Grave danger for that group of people

When an impure spirit comes out of a person, it goes through arid places seeking rest and does not find it. Then it says, 'I will return to the house I left.' When it arrives, it finds the house swept clean and put in order. Then it goes and takes seven other spirits more wicked than itself, and they go in and live there. And the final condition of that person is worse than the first.

**A thorough “clean up” leaves a vacuum.
What is going to fill it?.**

This Applies

- 1, To the demon-possessed – who were cleansed but not saved
- 2, To people who start to reform but don't build in new good things - especially welcoming the Holy Spirit.
- 3, To those of that generation who rejected Jesus as Messiah
AD 70 brought their destruction and national dispersal

A compliment, redirected

As Jesus was saying these things, a woman in the crowd called out, "Blessed is the mother who gave you birth and nursed you." He replied, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it."

Do you hear it/ get it ... then "do it".

Repent Trust Receive Live

and be free