

Matthew Series

Lesson #096

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Dean Bible Ministries

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# MATTHEW

## JESUS: KING OF THE JEWS

**The Importance of Faith  
Matthew 17:14–20**



**Matt. 17:14, “And when they had come to the multitude, a man came to Him, kneeling down to Him and saying,”**

**Mark 9:14, “And when He came to the disciples, He saw a great multitude around them, and scribes disputing with them.**

**Mark 9:15, “Immediately, when they saw Him, all the people were greatly amazed, and running to Him, greeted Him.**

**Mark 9:16, “And He asked the scribes, ‘What are you discussing with them?’ ”**

**Matt. 17:14, “And when they [Jesus, Peter, James, John] had come to the multitude, a man came to Him, kneeling down to Him and saying,”**

**γονυπετέω *gonupeteō***

**pres act part masc sing  
nom**

**to kneel, *not as an act of worship, but simple respect or perhaps pleading***

**Matt. 17:15, “Lord, have mercy on my son,  
for he is an epileptic and suffers severely;  
for he often falls into the fire and often into  
the water.”**

**ἐλεέω *eleeō***

**aor act impera 2**

**sing**

**to show mercy**

**Matt. 17:15, “Lord, have mercy on my son,  
for he is an epileptic and suffers severely;  
for he often falls into the fire and often into  
the water.”**

**ἐλεέω *eleeō***

**aor act impera 2**

**sing**

**to show mercy**

**σεληνιάζομαι**

***selēniazomai***

**pres pass indic 3 sing**

**to be moonstruck;**

**NOT epileptic which is  
a medical diagnosis; a**

**generic description—**

**i.e., to be a lunatic,**

**from *lunaris***

σεληνιαζομαι  
*selēniazomai*

**Selene: Greek  
goddess of the  
moon**

**Latin: Luna**

**To be moonstruck  
was to be a  
*lunatic*, or loony.**



**Matt 17:15b, “for he often falls into the fire and often into the water.**

**Matt. 17:16, “So I brought him to Your disciples, but they could not cure him.”**

**Mark 9:17, “Then one of the crowd answered and said, ‘Teacher, I brought You my son, who has a mute spirit.**

**Mark 9:18, “ ‘And wherever it seizes him, it throws him down; he foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth, and becomes rigid. So I spoke to Your disciples, that they should cast it out, but they could not.’ ”**

## **Ten Characteristics Are Given**

- 1. Frequently falls into the fire**
- 2. Frequently into the water**
- 3. Unable to talk, a “mute” spirit.**
- 4. Also caused deafness, Mark 9:25**
- 5. Uncontrollable seizures**
- 6. Cries out (Luke)**
- 7. Foams at the mouth**
- 8. Gnashes his teeth**
- 9. Becomes rigid**
- 10. Departs with difficulty, bruises him**

# **Characteristics of Demon-Possession Through the Centuries**

**Rabbi Huna (d. A.D. 297) identified four characteristics: “walking about at night, spending the night on a grave, tearing one’s clothes, and destroying what one is given.”**

# **Characteristics of Demon-Possession Through the Centuries**

## **Seventeenth century Puritans**

- a) to think oneself possessed,**
- b) to lead a wicked life,**
- c) to be persistently ill, falling into heavy sleep and vomiting unusual objects (either natural objects: toads, serpents, worms, iron, stones, etc.; or artificial objects: nails, pins, etc.),**
- d) to blaspheme,**
- e) to make a pact with the Devil,**
- f) to be troubled with spirits,**
- g) to show a frightening and horrible countenance,**
- h) to be tired of living,**
- i) to be uncontrollable and violent,**
- j) to make sounds and movements like an animal.**

# **Characteristics of Demon-Possession Through the Centuries**

**Kurt Koch: Cursing, grinding teeth, suicide, falling into a trance; “emit a scornful laugh if he hears someone talking about the cross of Christ or the blood of Jesus,” and that the person possessed will display “evil and hateful expressions especially if spiritual things are talked about.”**

**Unger also claimed that the possessing demon will voice opposition to Jesus Christ. Yet no possessing demon in any of the biblical cases speaks derogatorily or blasphemously of the Lord.**

# **Characteristics of Demon-Possession Through the Centuries**

**Can a Christian be demonized? For a number of years I questioned this, but now I am convinced it can occur. If a 'ground of entrance' has been granted the power of darkness (such as trafficking in the occult, a continual unforgiving spirit, a habitual state of carnality, etc.) the demon(s) sees this as a green light – okay to proceed ... I have worked personally with troubled, anguished Christians for many years. On a few occasions I have assisted in the painful process of delivering them of demons ... while present within the body (perhaps in the region of the soul) that evil force can wreck havoc within the life.**

**~Chuck Swindoll, *Demonism***

**Matt. 17:16, “So I brought him to Your disciples, but they could not cure him.”**

**θεραπεύω**

*therapeuō*

**aor act infin**

**to serve; take**

**care of; heal**

**Matt. 17:17, “Then Jesus answered and said, ‘O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him here to Me.’ ”**

**1 Pet. 1:8, “whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet by believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory,**

**1 Pet. 1:9, “when you receiving the end result of your faith—the deliverance of your life.”**

**Matt. 17:18, “And Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of him; and the child was cured from that very hour.”**

**Matt. 17:18, “And Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of him; and the child was cured from that very hour.”**

**ἐξέρχομαι**

***exerchomai***

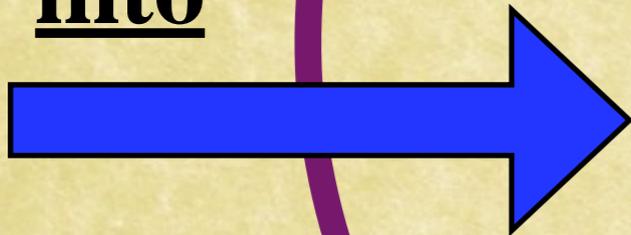
**aor act indic 3**

**sing**

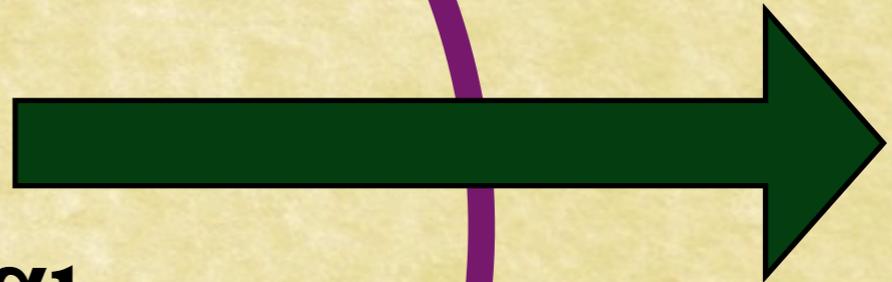
**to come out, go**

**out**

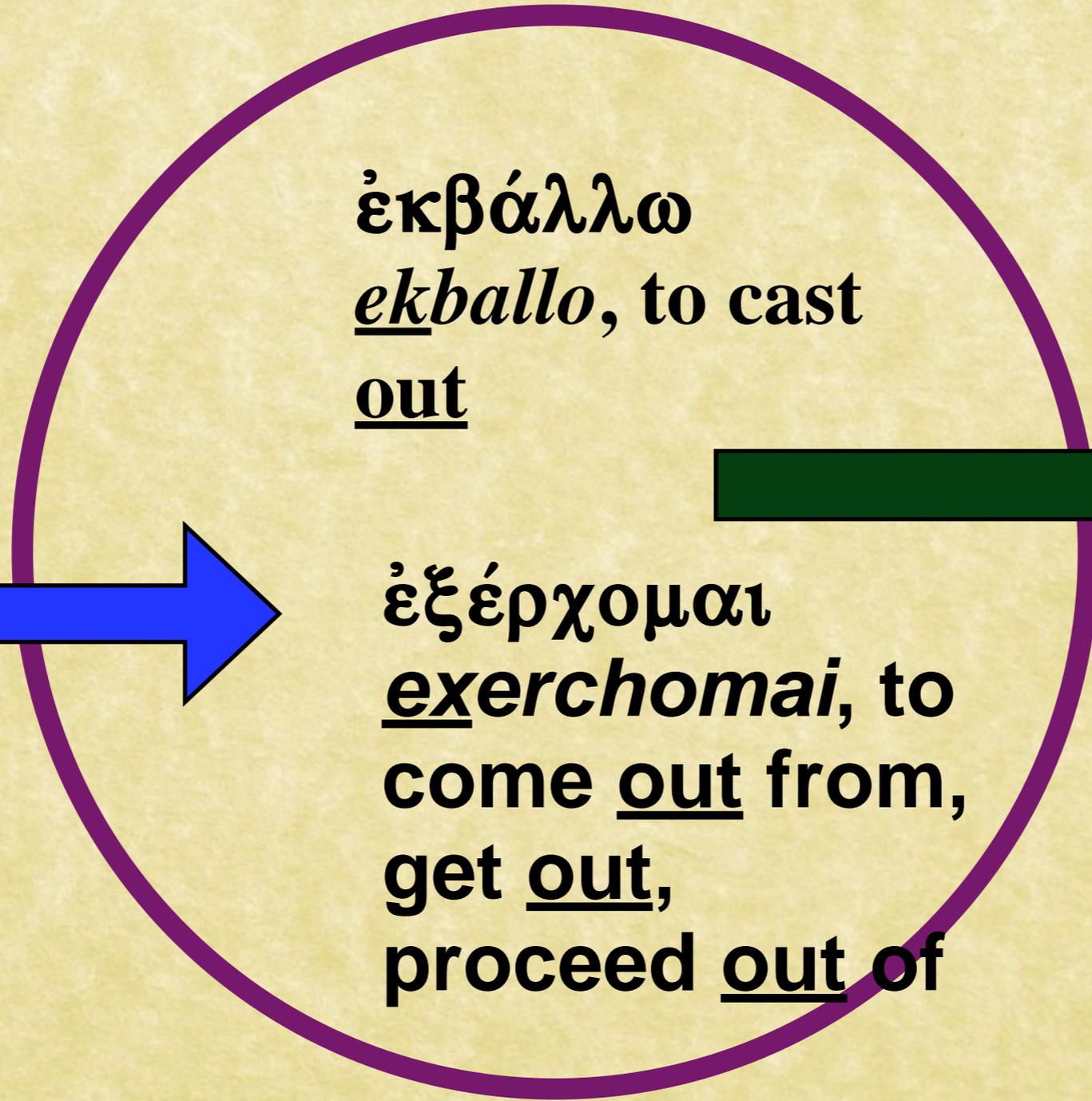
εἰσέρχομαι  
*eiserchomai*,  
to enter into



ἐκβάλλω  
*ekballo*, to cast  
out



ἐξέρχομαι  
*exerchomai*, to  
come out from,  
get out,  
proceed out of



# **Can a Christian be Demon-Possessed?**

**I have worked personally with troubled, anguished Christians for many years. On a few occasions I have assisted in the painful process of delivering them of demons ... while present within the body (perhaps in the region of the soul) that evil force can wreck havoc within the life.**

**~Chuck Swindoll**

***The Indwelling of the Holy Spirit.* Every believer in the Lord Jesus Christ is indwelt by the Holy Spirit from the instant of salvation (1 Cor. 3:16; 6:19).**

**1 Corinthians 3:16, “Do you not know that you are the temple of God and *that* the Spirit of God dwells in you?”**

**1 Corinthians 6:19, “Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?”**

***naos***; only the inner sanctum, the holiest, most sanctified location

***hierón***; includes not only the building, but the external grounds and courtyards

**1 Corinthians 6:19, “Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?”**

- 1. Every believer’s body is transformed into a “Holy of Holies” a *naos*, for the indwelling Christ.**
- 2. No evil or unclean thing can enter the Holy of Holies. No demon can enter the inner sanctum of God.**
- 3. Therefore, no demon can indwell a believer’s body.**

**1 John 4:4, “Greater is He that is in you,  
than he that is in the world.”**

**Matt. 17:19, “Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, ‘Why could we not cast it out?’ ”**

**Matt. 17:20, “So Jesus said to them,  
‘Because of your unbelief; for assuredly, I  
say to you, if you have faith as a mustard  
seed, you will say to this mountain, “Move  
from here to there,” and it will move; and  
nothing will be impossible for you.’ ”**

**Matt. 17:21, “However, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting.”**

**Probably not in the original. “And fasting” was probably added both here and in Mark by the 3<sup>rd</sup> century during the times of the rise of asceticism and monasticism.**