

# 1. Keeping the enemy out of your home

[www.victory.net.nz](http://www.victory.net.nz) 17.09.2023  
[www.youtube.com/c/VictoryChristianCentre](https://www.youtube.com/c/VictoryChristianCentre)

Subtitle: Performing a Spiritual House Clean

**2 Timothy 2:19-21 (NKJV)** Nevertheless the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: “The Lord knows those who are His,” and, **“Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity.”** **20** But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honor and some for dishonor. **21** **Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work.**

- Once we become born again, God tells us to cleanse our lives of sin & of dishonour
- This is done through repenting of all known sin in our lives
- Notice: Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity
- This speaks primarily about cleansing our lives from sin & dishonour
- That said, God’s Word teaches us that the cleansing process does not end there
- We must also cleanse our environment from dishonourable things, especially our home

## 1. Give no place to the devil - in your life or in your home

**Ephesians 4:26–27 (NKJV)** *“Be angry, and do not sin”*: *do not let the sun go down on your wrath, 27 nor give place to the devil.*

- ... *nor give place to the devil ...*
- Place – Gr. topos
  - a physical space, an inhabited place
  - licence, opportunity
- i.e. anger & wrath give licence to the devil to operate in our lives
- besides that, there are other things that give satan licence (or space) to operate in our lives and in our family

## 2. Revival in Ephesus

**Background:**

- a. Apostle Paul came to Ephesus & brought the Baptism with the Holy Spirit to the believers there
- b. He taught Kingdom principles daily for over two years
- c. God worked unusual miracles by the hand of Paul, through handkerchiefs & aprons that were carried from his body to sick people:
  - i. Diseases left those who were sick
  - ii. Evil spirits went out of them
- d. The seven sons of Sceva attempted to deliver a demon-possessed man

**Acts 19:16–20 (NKJV)** *Then the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, overpowered them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded. 17 This became known both to all Jews and Greeks dwelling in Ephesus; and **fear fell on them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was magnified.** 18 And many who had believed came confessing and telling their deeds. 19 Also, many of those who had practiced magic brought their books together and burned them in the sight of all. And they counted up the value of them, and it totaled fifty thousand pieces of silver. 20 So the word of the Lord grew mightily and prevailed.*

- Jewish exorcists tried to cast a demon out of a demon-possessed man
- Their attempted deliverance session did not go well, and the story became known in all of Ephesus
- Fear fell on everyone in Ephesus & the name of Jesus was magnified
  - they began to experience a city-wide revival
- Many who believed came confessing & telling their deeds
  - strong repentance!
- Many who had practiced magic brought their (occultic) books & burned them in the sight of all
  - they did a spiritual spring clean in their homes
- The value of books they burned totalled tens of thousands of dollars

### **Practicing Magic:**

- KJV: Curious arts
- NIV: Sorcery
- Practicing magic & sorcery fits into the sin category of “idol worship”
- Idol worship is any spiritual activity which does not directly recognise and honour Jesus Christ as Lord
- Idol worship is one of five sins that kept Israel out of the Promised Land (1 Corinthians 10:6-10)

## Questions:

- a. Who told them to publicly confess their involvement in occultic practices?
- b. Who or what motivated them to bring their occultic literature for a public book burning session?

## Possible Answers:

- a. When people are spiritually revived, their spiritual discernment is sharpened so they can identify idol worship in their lives and homes
- b. Any believer who is truly filled with the Holy Spirit has a strong sense of what honours God, and what dishonours Him

### 3. Charismatic move in the 70's and 80's

- In the 1970's and 80's, there was a strong move of the Holy Spirit of deliverance, holiness & sanctification
- Anything that remotely looked like occultic practices (or paraphernalia) was repented of, and renounced, (and disposed of)
- The attitude was:
  - "If in doubt, cast it out"
  - "If in doubt, throw it out"

### 4. God commands His people to live holy lives

**Deuteronomy 18:9–14 (NKJV)** *When you come into the land which the Lord your God is giving you, you shall not learn to follow the abominations of those nations. **10 There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, or one who practices witchcraft, or a soothsayer, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer, 11 or one who conjures spells, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead. 12 For all who do these things are an abomination to the Lord, and because of these abominations the Lord your God drives them out from before you. 13 You shall be blameless before the Lord your God. 14 For these nations which you will dispossess listened to soothsayers and diviners; but as for you, the Lord your God has not appointed such for you.***

- God forbade His people from engaging in, or practicing the sins of the Canaanites, including:
  - There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire – child sacrifice
  - Witchcraft

- Soothsayer – magic,
- interprets omens – fortune telling,
- sorcery (secret covens & societies, freemasonry etc. )
- conjures spells (Harry Potter)
- medium
- spiritist
- calling up the dead
- divination

God's people need to repent of past or present involvement in such practices, and clean out occultic literature and objects from their lives and homes.