



## ARTICLES

by Diane W. Hawkins, M.A.

# The Devil Made Me Do It

## Part 7: Demonic Contamination

In our study of the various degrees to which Satan is able to affect a person's life, we have covered demonic control, demonic attachment, and demonic assignment. We come now to demonic "contamination." This refers to the opportunity that demons have to "hang around" and affect a person because he/she has been in a place where demons are particularly prevalent.

Scripture is much vaguer in its allusions to this type of demonic affliction. However, Zechariah 13:2 indicates that a spiritual contamination of the land seemingly occurs when idols or false gods are worshiped in a country, possibly taking the form of a "spirit of impurity" establishing a stronghold there. While not stated directly, the implication seems to be that this evil spiritual heritage may have an effect on the people living there and possibly on those who may enter such a place as well.

In Isaiah 52:11 the prophet instructed the Israelites to leave Babylon, touching nothing unclean, and *to purify themselves*, seemingly from the contamination with evil they had experienced in that place. We can't be sure, but possibly all of the Old Testament laws concerning purity were meant to serve as a metaphor in some way for the concept of spiritual contamination as well.

Interestingly, 2 Corinthians 6:17 quotes from this passage in Isaiah and instructs New Testament believers to come out from the midst of those who are associated with the kingdom of darkness, mentioning that we, too, are "not to touch what is unclean." The implication seems to be that even a Christian will be adversely affected by being in the evil spiritual "climate" associated with these people and things.

Experience seems to indicate that if a person intentionally or unintentionally enters a "den of iniquity" or even a seemingly innocent place, such as a motel room, where evil activity has been carried out in the past, he not only may open himself to demonic harassment while in this place but may also emerge with demons following him and continuing to harass him. This "carry-over" effect can also seemingly be experienced at times by individuals ministering to, or doing deliverance with, another person.

Because Scripture is much more vague in its allusions to this avenue of demonic affliction, the nature and extent of Satan's capabilities to affect a person through this means is more difficult to ascertain. The influence of a spirit of impurity, as mentioned in Zechariah 13:2, would perhaps have a negative effect on the morality of the people. Individuals who have seemingly experienced demonic contamination today report a general oppression or mental/emotional/spiritual "discomfort." Sometimes the spiritual origin of this is not recognized but may be identified by someone more gifted in spiritual discernment who comes into their presence.

When a person has done nothing to give legal grounds for demonic "attachment" to occur, "contaminating" demons are generally easy to dispel once they are recognized. If you sense demonic harassment on property that you own or are renting (even for a night), you need only remind the demonic forces that you are a child of God and have a legal right to take spiritual authority over the place while you are there. If you have deliberately entered a spiritually "contaminated" place for a godly purpose, you need only assert that you are an Ambassador for the Kingdom of God and are on the King's business in this place and command all evil beings to leave you alone.

If you have in any way succumbed to your fleshly nature and willfully entered into an evil environment, then confession is necessary, followed by a request for cleansing by the blood of Jesus. Sometimes a direct request for the banishment of any lingering evil beings in the name of Jesus may be necessary.