



How Free Will Bonds and DID Complicate Deliverance

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Unsuccessful deliverance can leave both the deliverance minister and the client in a state of bewilderment, if not utter despair. As in so many other aspects of life, however, failure can actually be a door of opportunity for further growth in understanding the complexities of the human mind and the dynamics of the spiritual realm.

At Restoration in Christ Ministries our focus is not on deliverance per se but on bringing healing to those who have Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID) as a result of severe early childhood trauma, often at the hand of Satanic cults. The complexities of spiritual bondage that these individuals carry have forced us onto a steep learning curve in regard to the spiritual realm.

Two issues that we have frequently encountered in those who have reported a history of failed deliverance attempts are unrenounced “free will bonds” to darkness and unrecognized Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID). Often these two factors are combined, as undetected alter-identities can hold unrenounced “free will bonds.”

The issue of unrenounced free will bonds refers to what many have called “legal grounds,” or the acts that give the right for evil spiritual beings to attach to a person. While many deliverance ministers have experienced the necessity of identifying and renouncing these before permanent and complete deliverance is possible, we have no example of Jesus or any of His followers ever dealing with “legal grounds” when doing deliverance.

As I sought deeper understanding of the legitimacy of this issue, God impressed upon me that it is a matter of His not violating man’s free will. Therefore, if someone has willfully committed acts that have connected him to entities of darkness in any way, God will not remove the entities involved unless the person changes his mind about what he did and renounces that act. In light of this, perhaps “free will bonds” is a better term to describe this issue, since Jesus did absolutely everything on his part to remove Satan’s “legal grounds” to hold any of us in bondage (Rom. 8:33).

Free will bonds can involve any act of deliberate collaboration with the agenda of darkness or formal dedication, vow, sacrifice, ritual, or commitment made to Satan or to any false god by the person, his caretakers, or his generational line, whether done willingly or unwillingly. They can also involve any kind of less formal dabbling in occult activities or connecting with the occult realm or an entity of darkness, including responding favorably to an overture made by one. Choosing to live a habitually sinful lifestyle or to violate God’s established boundaries for human life experience through extra-dimensional exploration or ungodly sexual unions are also free will decisions bringing bondage to evil spiritual entities, whether the consequences of doing so were recognized or not. Having ungodly relationship bonds to people connected to darkness also provides an avenue for demonic access in a person’s life. Successful deliverance thus requires that all such free will bonds that an individual has made be identified and renounced.

The second issue behind deliverance failures is that of unrecognized DID. When a person’s mind has split, or dissociated, into multiple identities, each part has a will of its own. Doing deliverance with the presenting identity will fail if another hidden identity has a free will bond with the entity one is trying to cast out.

Due to a vast complexity of factors, DID is not always easy to recognize in an individual. Sometimes the switches in identities are quite obvious while at other times they are much more subtle. Often in the latter case the person himself may be unaware of his own dissociation.

A deliverance minister who is unfamiliar with DID can err in two different ways. One is not to recognize the DID at all. The other is to assume that the switch in demeanor and voice quality being observed automatically indicates the presence of a demon. This is tragic, as treating an alter-identity as a demon and trying to cast it out is extremely traumatizing to the person and detrimental to his healing process.

The accompanying article on “Differentiating Demons and Alters” gives guidelines to help in making this distinction. When in doubt, asking God to separate anything demonic from anything human can be very helpful. If the voice in question disappears, it probably belonged to a demon. Seeking the identification and renunciation of any free will bonds made by the individual to the demon will allow it to be permanently cast out.

If the voice remains unchanged or significantly mellows after making the separation request, it may be an alter-identity of the person. Extreme caution is urged at this point. For those unfamiliar with the dynamics of dissociation, halting the process and seeking the input of someone with greater training in DID is the wisest move.

Even if possible alter-identities have not been clearly encountered in an individual, but deliverance has been unsuccessful in spite of addressing all known free will bonds, the possibility of unrecognized DID merits consideration and should be investigated by someone trained in this area. This is especially true if the person has a history of a traumatic childhood or few memories of his school-aged years.

Approaching healing from the perspective of a deliverance model that has its primary focus on getting rid of demons is not recommended for people with DID. While deliverance may be needed, it must be knowledgeably addressed within the broader context of the dissociative dynamics.

Bringing deliverance to a dissociated client is much more complex than when this diagnosis is not present. The facilitator needs to be able to distinguish alter-identities, demons, and demonized alters. He also needs to understand the role that intolerable psychological conflicts play in driving the beliefs and behavior of alter-identities so that he can knowledgeably work with them to overcome any resistance they may carry to renouncing their free will bonds and relinquishing their connections to entities of Satan’s realm. Only when this occurs will deliverance be successful. Sometimes a group of identities will be involved in making a free will bond to a demon or group of demons, and all of them have to be brought into agreement to renounce that free will bond before deliverance will be successful. Connections to higher-level, cosmic beings must also be considered and addressed.¹

Having another option to give individuals when deliverance fails is a great antidote for the bewilderment and despair they might otherwise experience. It gives them an ongoing measure of hope rather than leaving them at a complete dead end.

¹ Further information on this subject can be found in the chapter entitled “Spiritual Support” in *Multiple Identities: Understanding and Supporting the Severely Abused* by Diane Hawkins available at <http://www.rcm-usa.org/Books.html>. Tom Hawkins’ latest teachings on the cosmic hierarchy, recorded 10 weeks before his home going, are available in DVD or CD format at http://www.rcm-usa.org/spiritual_dynamics.html.