

## Luke 11:14-23 **Casting out demons by the Finger of God – or Beelzebub**

14 And He was casting out a demon, and it was mute. So it was, when the demon had gone out, that the mute spoke; and the multitudes marveled.

15 But some of them said, "He casts out demons by Beelzebub, the ruler of the demons." 16 Others, testing Him, sought from Him a sign from heaven.

17 But He, knowing their thoughts, said to them: "Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and a house divided against a house falls. 18 If Satan also is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? Because you say I cast out demons by Beelzebub.

19 And if I cast out demons by Beelzebub, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges. 20 But if I cast out demons with the finger of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you.

21 When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own palace, his goods are in peace. 22 But when a stronger than he comes upon him and overcomes him, he takes from him all his armor in which he trusted, and divides his spoils.

23 He who is not with Me is against Me, and he who does not gather with Me scatters. NKJV

### Facts Revealed:

**Setting: Demon Possessed Blind and Mute man Healed** [Mark 3:1-12, Matthew 12:22-23, 9:32-34, Luke 11:14-26]

- ✚ Jesus had withdrawn from the Synagogue, the multitude had followed Him, He healed them all. [Matthew 12:15, Mark 3:10-11]
- ✚ A demon possessed man who was blind and mute, was brought to Jesus.
- ✚ Jesus healed him, so the man, blind and mute, both spoke and saw.
- ✚ The multitude of common folk were amazed, and said, "Could this be the Son of David?" [Matthew 12:23]
  - ✧ This is a case of the common folk who could discern the truth by the evidence they saw.
  - ✧ They looked at the evidence, and felt that the prophecy of the Messiah Son of David could be the only one who could perform the wonders Jesus did. [Isaiah 7:6-7, 16:5, 55:1-5]

### Scribes and Pharisees give credit to Beelzebub

- ✚ The intellectuals, Scribes who came from Jerusalem and the Pharisees, were blind to the truth evidenced by the miracles of Jesus, blinded by their envy, and they gave Beelzebub (Satan) the ruler of the demons the credit for the work of the Holy Spirit in the life of Jesus. [Mark 3:22, Matthew 9:32-34, 12:24, Luke 11:14-23]
  - ✧ This is a case demonstrating the truth of Jesus' statement in His prayer.  
"I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and prudent and have revealed them to babes." [Matthew 11:25-26]

### A kingdom divided against itself cannot stand

- ✚ Jesus knew their thoughts and called them to Him. [Mark 3:23, Matthew 12:25, Luke 11:17]
  - ✧ Another attribute only possible with God, evidence of the identity of Jesus.
- ✚ Jesus said to them: "How can Satan cast out Satan? Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and every city or house divided against itself will not stand. If Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand? " [Mark 3:23-26, Matthew 12:25-26, Luke 11:17-18]

- ✚ Because you say I cast out demons by Beelzebub. [Luke 11:18]
  - ✧ Jesus here indicates that Beelzebub and Satan are the same.
- ✚ Jesus challenged their suggestion that it was the power of Beelzebub turning it on themselves.
  - ✧ If I cast out demons by Beelzebub, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges. [Luke 11:19]

### If I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, the Kingdom of God has come upon you

- ✚ Jesus then used it as evidence that the Holy Spirit had cast out the demons.
  - ✧ But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you. [Matthew 12:27-28, Luke 11:20]
  - ✧ With the Kingdom of God, is the warning of accountability in the day of judgment.
  - ✧ John and Jesus both began their ministry with the words, “Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand.” [Matthew 3:1, 4:17, Mark 1:4, 15]
  - ✧ This thus becomes evidence of the great need for the Pharisees to come to repentance.

### Plundering the house of a strong man

- ✚ Or how can one enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man? And then he will plunder his house. [Mark 3:27, Matthew 12:29, Luke 11:21-22]
  - ✧ Satan is viewed as the strong man who must be bound before God can take away what belongs to Satan.
  - ✧ Jesus’ healing of the demon possessed man is evidence that God in Christ is greater than Satan, and Satan has been defeated by Christ Who came out the victor.
  - ✧ God is the One Who will eventually bind Satan, to remove temptation from the earth, for the thousand year reign of Christ, a time of peace, righteousness, and abundance, in the Kingdom age. [Revelation 20:1-3]

### With Me or Against Me

- ✚ He who is not with Me is against Me, and he who does not gather with Me scatters abroad. [Matthew 12:30, Luke 11:23]
  - ✧ There are two sides, the side of Christ and the Kingdom, or the side of Satan and damnation.
  - ✧ The side of good with its blessings, or the side of evil with its curse.
  - ✧ The side of Life, or the side of Death.
  - ✧ Moses said, “I set before you, life, and death, choose life.” [Deuteronomy 30:19]
  - ✧ The choice still remains ours to make, with Jesus and receive His Kingdom, or against Jesus and receive the Lake of Fire. [Matthew 25:34, 41]

### Unforgivable Sin

- ✚ At this point, Jesus introduced the concept of the Unforgivable Sin. [Mark 3:28-30, Matthew 12:31-32, Luke 12:10]
- ✚ "Therefore I say to you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven men. Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but whoever blasphemes (speaks against) the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven him, either in this age or in the age to come." **because they said, "He has an unclean spirit."** [Mark 3:28-30, Matthew 12:31-32, Luke 11:18]
  - ✧ The point Jesus has been making is, the contrast between acknowledgment of the work of the Holy Spirit, and crediting Satan for the work of the Holy Spirit.
  - ✧ To claim that Satan has done what is actually the work of the Holy Spirit, is blasphemy against the Holy Spirit. Blasphemy is defined as “to speak evil of.”
  - ✧ To say that the work of the Holy Spirit, is the work of Satan, is clearly speaking evil of the work of the Holy Spirit.
  - ✧ That, Jesus said, is unforgivable in this age or in the age to come.

- ✚ Today, those who have given Satan credit for things the Holy Spirit has done, are playing with fire.
  - ✦ The only hope is that it was done in ignorance, and they come to repentance before it is too late.
  - ✦ If the conscience is pricked by this revelation, it is not too late. When you know the truth, Jesus would have you repent and stop doing so, that you may be forgiven for doing it in ignorance.
  - ✦ To deliberately continue in the practice, will seal your fate as one who deliberately has chosen to blaspheme the Holy Spirit, and that will not be acceptable to God. [\[Hebrews 10:26-27\]](#)

**Known by their fruits, give account in the Day of Judgment, Justified or Condemned by your words**

- ✚ [33](#) "Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or else make the tree bad and its fruit bad; for a tree is known by its fruit.
- ✚ [34](#) Brood of vipers! How can you, being evil, speak good things? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. [35](#) A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things.
- ✚ [36](#) But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment. [37](#) For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned." [\[Matthew 12:33-37\]](#)
  
- ✚ We are known by our fruit, the fruit of our lips. [\[Matthew 12:33, Luke 6:43-45\]](#)
  - ✦ An evil person can not help but blaspheme the Holy Spirit, because it is his nature to speak evil of holy things.
- ✚ Jesus said: "Brood of vipers! How can you, being evil, speak good things?" [\[Matthew 12:34\]](#)
- ✚ The mouth speaks the things that are in the heart.
  - ✦ Discernment of the heart of the individual is found in the words he speaks.
  - ✦ A good man speaks good things out of the good treasure of his heart.
  - ✦ An evil man speaks evil things out of the evil treasures of his heart.
- ✚ Jesus then reveals a secret into the Day of Judgment.
  - ✦ The words we have spoken will be weighed on the day of Judgment.
  - ✦ We will be called to give account for **every idle word** we have spoken, when we were not on guard concerning what has proceeded out of our mouths. [\[Matthew 12:36\]](#)
  - ✦ In the speech category, we will be justified by our words, or we will be condemned by our words. [\[Matthew 12:37\]](#)

Pray that God will forgive your words of the past, and carefully guard your words in the future. Do not give Satan credit for the working of the Holy Spirit.