

# ***Spiritual Warfare***

## ***The Devil, and How to Stand Against His Schemes***



# ***Spiritual Warfare***

- *Definitions of Terms*
- *The Nature of the Enemy*
- *The Mechanics of Spiritual Warfare (part 1)*



# ***The Mechanics of Spiritual Warfare***

- Let's keep trying to focus on building off of what we know from Scripture
  - We've learned about stuff that Satan does
    - Deviling
    - Sataning
    - Attacks and straight-up demon-possessioning



# ***The Mechanics of Spiritual Warfare***

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  - So what exactly are we told to do?
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      - Lemme save you the trouble:  
"Resist the Devil, and he will flee from you."
        - But that's a bit more complicated than it sounds, isn't it?



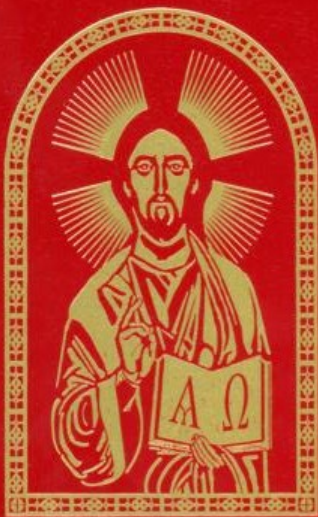


# The Mechanics of Spiritual Warfare



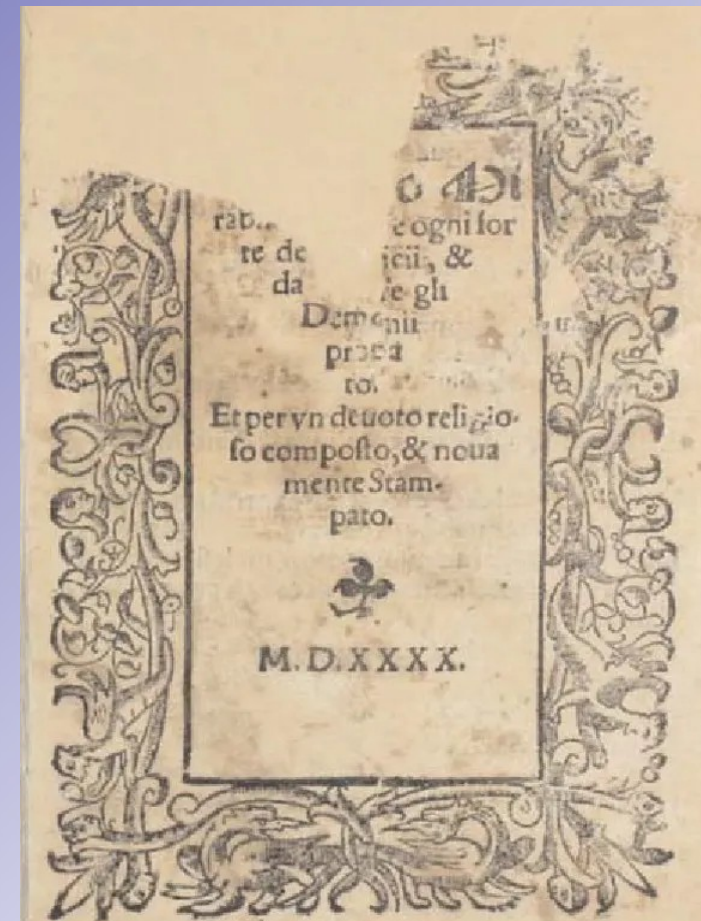
Funky little teaching moment...

- The Catholic Church has put together an official liturgy for casting out demons (helpfully revised in 1999... since the last revision had been back in 1614...)



EXORCISMS AND  
RELATED SUPPLICATIONS

PRAYERS  
AGAINST THE  
POWERS OF  
DARKNESS



# The Mechanics of Spiritual Warfare



## Funky little teaching moment...

- The Catholic Church has put together an official liturgy for casting out demons
  - *De Exorcismis et Supplicationibus Quibusdam (Of Exorcisms and Certain Supplications)* is an 84-page, four-sectioned document that lays out how to do it
    - But remember—only an ordained priest of the Roman Catholic Church may even attempt an exorcism—and only if he's been properly trained in exorcisms and only if he's under the express permission of his bishop to do so
      - The first Appendix includes the basic liturgy—
        - A liturgical greeting
        - A liturgy of the Word—reading(s) and a homily
        - A public prayer addressed to the Holy Spirit (optionally, general intercessions concluding with the “Our Father”—AKA the “Lord’s Prayer”)



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      - A public prayer addressed to the Holy Spirit
      - A statement of intentional purpose to exorcise
      - An extract from Psalm 68 with public response (“May God arise, may his enemies be scattered; may his foes flee before him...” etc.)



EXORCISMS AND  
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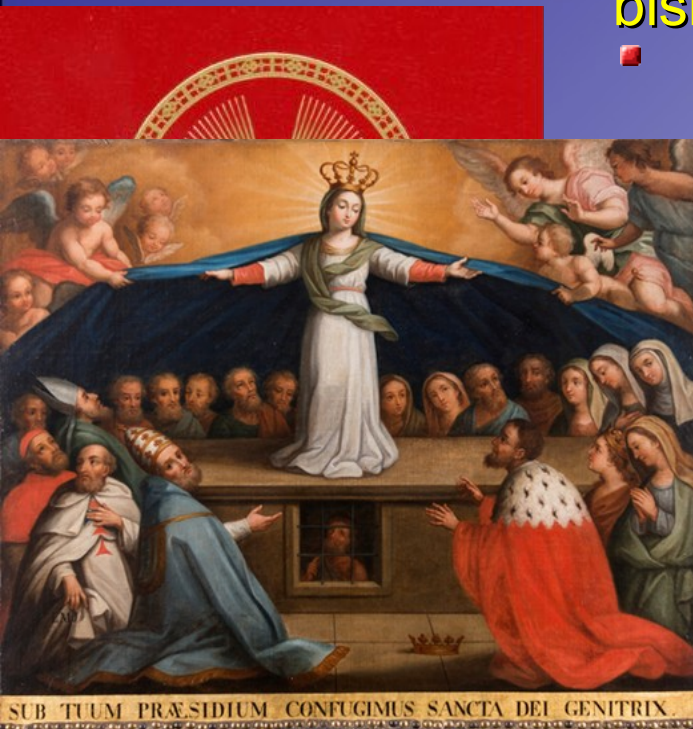


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        - A statement of intentional purpose to exorcise
        - An extract from Psalm 68 with public response
        - The act of exorcism, first as an deprecative formula, then as an imperative one
        - The *Sub tuum* prayer  
 (“*Sub Tuum Præsidium*” or “*Under Your Protection*”  
—a classic prayer to the Virgin Mary:  
 “Beneath thy compassion, we take refuge,  
 O God-bearer. Do not despise our petitions  
 in time of trouble, but rescue us from  
 dangers, only pure one, only blessed one.”)





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        - An extract from Psalm 68 with public response
        - The act of exorcism, first as an deprecative formula, then as an imperative one
        - The *Sub tuum* prayer and an exorcism prayer addressed to St. Michael

(a long and complex prayer to Michael, including, "O glorious Archangel St. Michael, Prince of the heavenly host, defend us in battle... The Church venerates thee as protector and patron... Pray to the God of peace that He may put Satan under our feet..." etc.)





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        - The *Sub tuum* prayer and an exorcism prayer addressed to St Michael
        - A sprinkling with holy water, blessing and dismissal



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  - *De Exorcismis et Supplicationibus Quibusdam* (Of Exorcisms and Certain Supplications) is an 84-page, four-sectioned document that lays out how to do it
  - None of which is Scriptural at all...
  - How comfortable should we be, leaning on scripted incantations and invocations (ideally spoken in Latin) to protect and empower us—liturgies which aren't themselves Scriptural, nor did they exist until 1600 years after the death of Jesus Christ?





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  - So what exactly are we told to do?
    - Read James 4:7
      - Lemme save you the trouble:  
“Resist the Devil, and he will flee from you.”
        - But that's a bit more complicated than it sounds, isn't it?
        - In Mark 16:17, Jesus said, “These signs will accompany those who believe; In my name they will drive out demons...”
          - Isn't that technically supposed to be all of us as believers doing that...?
        - So... how do we resist Satan, Scripturally?



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  - So what exactly are we told to do?
    - Read James 4:7
    - Read Acts 19:13-16
      - What exactly is going on here?
        - What were these guys *doing*, *why* were they doing it, and *why didn't it work*?
        - Isn't it enough to use the name of Jesus as an incantation, or hold a crucifix in front of you or whatever?
          - If it's not the symbols or the liturgy or the words—or even the *Name of Christ*—that makes our spiritual warfare effective, then what is it?
          - What's the *context* of that quote from James 4:7?
            - Read James 4:4-7 and vs. 10
              - How crucial is your sincere and humble *faith* in Christ?





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      - What exactly is going on here?
        - Read vs. 19
        - What does Jesus seem to think the problem is —and whose unbelief is He pointing to?





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    - Read Mark 9:14-18
      - What exactly is going on here?
        - Read vs. 19
        - Read vs. 20-24
        - Read vs. 25-27
          - Obviously, the exit of the spirit was extreme and violent in vs. 26 (much like the one back in Mark 1 had been), but how *complicated* was it for Jesus to accomplish, and why?





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        - Read vs. 25-27
        - Read vs. 28-29

(NOTE: Later manuscripts added “by prayer and fasting,” but that wasn't in the original text written by Mark—so why might people feel compelled to add something *liturgical* to do to the text?)





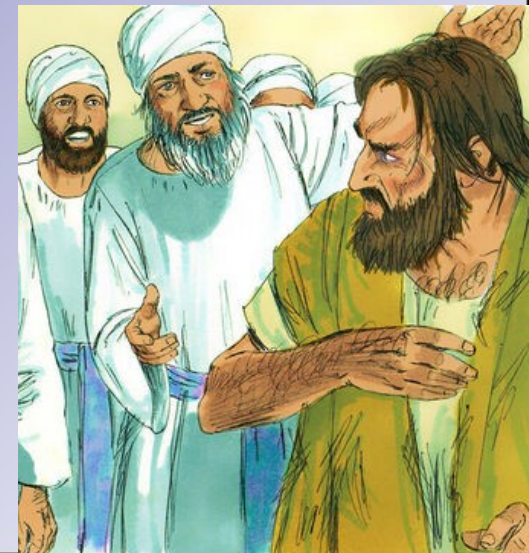
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        - Read vs. 28-29
          - What had the disciples apparently failed to do—and why would they not even *think* to do it?
            - In Matthew 17:20, Jesus also answers their question by noting *another, related* problem that they'd had—  
“Because you have so little faith. I tell you the truth, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there’ and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.”



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    - Read Acts 19:13-16
    - Read Mark 9:14-18
    - Read Acts 16:16-18
      - What exactly is going on here?
        - First off, if she was telling people such good things, then why did it bother Paul so much?
        - Second, what was Paul's liturgy of exorcism rites?
          - Why did that work for Paul, and not for the seven sons of Sceva?





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        - Second, what was Paul's liturgy of exorcism rites?
        - How complicated was this, and what seems to be the whole key to spiritual warfare?



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    - Read Mark 9:14-18
    - Read Acts 16:16-18
    - How would you summarize a consistently *Biblical* way of casting out demons?
      - But “casting out demons” is actually only a *fraction* of what we as Christians are specifically told in Scripture to do in our spiritual warfare—the *vast majority* of it is...

