

Empowering People to Change the World

Haunted Houses and Cleansing Steve Holt

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Lord's Prayer

Haunted Houses

Last week we looked UFO's, Aliens, and The Nephilim.

Deuteronomy 29:29, "The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but the things revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may follow all the words of this law."

Hoaxes, misinformation, unreliable reports, and legends follow our topic.
 The challenge is to set aside what we think we might have heard and listen for truth. And what does the Bible say?

What about haunted houses?

- Around Halloween, one can find numerous haunted houses to take your family. They sure look scary.
- In Colorado Springs you have "The Fear Complex Haunted House," and "Hellscream Haunted House."

The real question: Can a House be Haunted? Let me begin with an experience I had years ago...

A Haunted House in Okinawa, Japan

I had been in Okinawa, Japan for a year, and quite quickly and I might add unexpectedly became the *go to* missionary on the island for cast out demons. I was asked to go to a house because the members of this family, one of the leading Christian families in Okinawa, met with me and told me of the frightening nightmares, dreams, and visions that all the family had been experiencing. They felt it had something to do with the house itself.

I instructed them to research the house. Find out any information they could on the history of the house. They found out that the house was built in the exact location of the temple of the king of Okinawa, the place he housed his Yuta, or shaman. It was this place, the exact place of this house, where the spirit priestesses of the Okinawan King had offered prayers and sacrifices.

A team of us went to the house and anointed each room with oil and aggressively commanded any spirits to leave. On the last room, the living room, smoke appeared and as we were casting out demons, one of the family members had a vision seeing women at an altar. We commanded the spirits of the dead, the

spirits of the Priestess, the spirits of the Yuta to leave. The smoke rose up and disappeared.

The family was set free from any other nightmares or disturbances. The house had been cleansed.

There is an unusual passage in Leviticus that most of us just glide by when reading through this book.

Leviticus 14:33-57

- It is not mysterious that that a physical infection could be over a house. Hospitals take great precautions to cleanse rooms, hallways, etc.
- But this passage indicates that something of a spiritual nature is also involved. Israel has come into the land that had been full of Canaanite idols and religions.
- The term leprosy was often the name given to spiritual and physical maladies of all sorts. In this house, it would seem to be a mold in the walls. But the leprosy or mold was often associated with sin and demonic activity. Thus, a priest is called in.

One commentator on this passage writes,

"The purification ritual involves both a physical and spiritual application, showing that houses even then could be polluted at both levels—a physical level of infectious filth and a level of spiritual infestation, too. This is not a matter of superstition." (Jack Hayford, Glory on Your House)

Six Practical Truths for Cleansing a House of the Demonic

Verses 33-34

"And the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying: 'When you have come into the land of Canaan, which I give you as a possession, and I put the leprous plague in a house in the land of your possession,"

1) God can Allow a Demonic Spirit or Plague over a House to Expose Evil.

- The Israelites were coming into houses built by the Canaanites who worshipped foreign gods and He wanted all the evil that had occurred in that house to be exposed.
- According to the Midrash, a Jewish Rabbinic Commentary, it was believed that the Amorites hid gold in the walls of their houses. It could have been that God was allowing demonic leprosy over a house in order for the Jews to find the gold!
- Could it be that there a hidden treasures of peace, joy, righteousness even over a house or church that has never been discovered but when we cleanse the house, God's Spirit comes and reveals things that were otherwise hidden.

When we first took over this building, we went from room to room praying and seeking God to cleanse this place. In one room, several people felt strongly that there was a sexual spirit or demon in that room. We cast it out and cleansed it. We would discover that there had been some sins committed in the past within this church.

The Function of Worship without Fire in Worship prevents the Release of Fragrance in Worship!

- Something was hindering the fire and we found it, kicked it out, and fire has now come!
- Now, when you go down to children's room, the main room, there is powerful, glorious worship happening down there!

Verse 35

"and he who owns the house comes and tells the priest, saying, 'It seems to me that there is some plague in the house,' then the priest shall command that they empty the house, before the priest goes into it to examine the plague, that all that is in the house may not be made unclean; and afterward the priest shall go in to examine the house."

2) Spirits of Evil can be attached to a Person and a House.

The renowned theologians and scholars, Kiel and Delitzch write about this passage,

"The only thing that can be gathered from the signs mentioned is that the house-leprosy was an evil...For, although it is primarily in the human body that sin manifests itself, it spreads from man to the things which he touches, uses, inhabits, though without our being able to represent this spread as a physical contagion." C.F. Keil, Commentary on Leviticus pp.390-91

- Have you ever felt a heaviness over a place? Over a person? Isaiah describes the "spirit of heaviness" in Isaiah 61:3.
- The purification ritual involved both a physical and spiritual application, showing that a house could be polluted on two levels, a physical level and spiritual level.
- I believe that demonic spirits can inhabit people and places. It's interesting
 that the same procedure we are reading about for a house is used for
 someone with leprosy.

"And it happened when He was in a certain city, that behold, a man who was full of leprosy saw Jesus; and he fell on *his* face and implored Him, saying, 'Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean.' Then He put out *His* hand and touched him, saying, 'I am willing; be cleansed.' Immediately the leprosy left him" (Luke 15:12-13).

• Demons can attach themselves to people and places, but the remedy is the same! We invited the Spirit to come and take over.

Demons Always Manifest Themselves in a House.

- Doors opening, dark specters, strange noises, etc.
- Frightening dreams, pervasive fear when in the house.
- More obvious are sins being committed in a house are inviting dark spirits to come and occupy that house.

Verses 38-40

"then the priest shall go out of the house, to the door of the house, and shut up the house seven days. And the priest shall come again on the seventh day and look; and indeed if the plague has spread on the walls of the house, then the priest shall command that they take away the stones in which is the plague, and they shall cast them into an unclean place outside the city.

- 3) Demons can Inhabit Physical Objects and the Objects must be Thrown Out.
- Turn to 1 Corinthians 10:14-21.
- Paul is saying that demons are inhabiting—are behind idol worship.
- What we see is that physical objects can be inhabited by spiritual beings.
 They are interrelated. People are physical entities as are houses.
 Remember that both the tabernacle and temple were dedicated through a dedication ceremony.
- I believe that Ouija boards, tarot cards, Dungeons & Dragons, pornography, and idols from other countries can and often are demonized.
- We gave our son a Samurai sword and felt that there was something demonic in it and got it out of our home.
- We can be unwittingly inviting demonic spirits into our home.

Are you Inviting Demons into your House? Questions to Ask:

- 1. Are there any Unclean Activities Happening in your House?
- 2. Are there any Unclean Objects in your House?
- 3. Could there by Unclean Activities in the History of your House?

You have to throw out and get rid of all unclean objects and stop all unclean activities!

- If you are feeling something. If you know there has been or is demonic activity over your home, you absolutely must treat it as spiritual and cleanse your home.
- We have seen that certain objects from idols, false religions allowed in the home must be thrown out, burned, or destroyed.
- Notice that a Priest had to be Called in to Purify the House.
- 4) As a Priest and King over your House, You can Cleanse your House.
- You are the priest and king over your house. You have spiritual jurisdiction over your place.

"To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen" (Revelation 1:5-6).

- This was seen as a spiritual issue not just a physical one. This is about something impure, a plague, something unclean over a home.
- Not a pastor necessarily but the saints can gather with the power of the Spirit and purify a home.
- All of you have the Holy Spirit—all of you are priests of God—you can cleanse your home.

Verse 52

"And he shall cleanse the house with the blood of the bird and the running water and the living bird, with the cedar wood, the hyssop, and the scarlet."

- 5) Under the New Covenant, We can Pray the Blood of Jesus over a House.
- Our story from the Old Testament is under the Old Covenant of blood sacrifices. We are now in the New Testament under the New Covenant, the Covenant of Christ.
- We pray the blood over our homes!
- I believe we can have sick homes and I know this sounds weird, but demons can attach themselves to a place—like the High Places in Israel and we treat these places like they are demonized and need to be delivered.
- We have gone into homes and anointed each room and the four corners of the property with oil and prayed for all spirits to leave in the name of Jesus.
- But there is more here than just prayer over a house.
- I want to challenge us with the concept of building a <u>War Room</u> in your home! You will have to learn to war in prayer for your family, for your work, for your home.

- Liz and I pray for our family and our home every morning together:
 - We open our Bibles and pray through a passage.
 - If we have less time, we just pray a few verses; if we have more time, we pray a chapter.
 - But we pray the blood of Jesus over each person and situation.
- A couple in our church years ago, Joe and Marci Wuertz sensed a demonic presence over their house and they took authority over that house and cleansed it.

Verse 53

"Then he shall let the living bird loose outside the city in the open field, and make atonement for the house, and it shall be clean."

- 6) When we Take Authority over our House, it is Cleansed of all Demonic Activity.
- Listen, this works! I have witnessed it dozens of times!

How do we Take Authority over our Houses?

Step 1: Remove any unclean sinful items that have been brought in: pornography, horror movies, filthy movies, false religious items. This would include any secret thing brought in by someone else.

Step 2: Stop the sins being committed in the home. Fornication is sex outside of marriage, gossip, lying, cheating, Ouija boards, tarot cards, porn, etc.

Step 3: Gather a group of believers in Christ, wholehearted disciples who believe in the power of God and the blood of Jesus. Gather together and move room by room anointing with oil and praying out loud the prayer below or a prayer like it.

Step 4: Fill your house with worship, praise, prayer, Bible reading, a small community group, and all things good, wholesome, and pure.

- As a Jesus disciple you are to renounce reject the works of the Devil, the flesh, and the world.
- You are to claim the victory of Jesus, the blood of Jesus, the name of Jesus.

A Prayer for Cleansing Your House (in the lobby)

Lord Jesus, we love You and bless You. We give You praise and worship. We thank You that in all things You have preeminence. We thank You that Your Word says that You are the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by You all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through You and for You. You are before all things, and in You all things consist.

We give thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. We thank You Lord that You have delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the Kingdom of the Son of His love, and that we have redemption through Your blood and work on the cross.

Lord, we come to You in the power of the Holy Spirit and as Your blood-washed saints to cleanse this house. We invite You Holy Spirit to come and fill this house. We invite You Jesus to rule over this house and our family. We desire that You be Lord, King, and Savior over this home and our family. By the blood of Jesus we ask You to empower us now as we pray.

[Anoint with oil] As we anoint this home/room, we invite You Holy Spirit to take control of our prayers, to show us how to pray, to guide us in any way You desire. Bring to mind anything that You want us to be aware of and pray over. Give us visions, thoughts, or pictures in our minds eye of anything that You want us to bind and loose over this house.

In the name of Jesus we renounce and reject any sins, known or unknown to us [wait on the Lord for anything He would bring to mind], that have been committed by anyone, including myself and my family, in this house. In the blood of Jesus we renounce and cast out any demons that have been attached to anyone or any sin that has been committed in this place. We cast these demons out in the name of Jesus and we cast them out to where Christ would send them.

Show us Lord if there are any unclean objects in the home. [Let the Lord speak to you about anything that needs to be taken out of the house.] By the blood and name of Jesus we renounce and cast out any demonic powers of darkness that have been invited into this place through sinful, unclean objects or items that have been brought into this home. We command them to leave right now by the

name and power of Jesus!

Lord, we invite Your kingdom, Your presence, Your power, Your angels to inhabit this place for Your glory. Use this house for Your glory and honor. We desire that You would come and take over our lives and this house and use it for Your glory, Your purpose, and Your plans.

Amen.