

Demonic Influences & Attachments

Functions, Manifestations, and Biblical Countermeasures

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Abstract

This document provides a biblically grounded framework for understanding demonic influences and attachments that operate against individuals, families, churches, and nations. Scripture reveals that demonic activity is not random or mythical, but strategic—seeking access through sin, deception, trauma, idolatry, rebellion, and ignorance. These influences manifest in recognizable patterns affecting thoughts, emotions, behaviors, relationships, health, and governance.

Rather than sensationalizing the subject, this work categorizes demonic influences by function and fruit, anchoring each to specific biblical references. The intent is diagnostic and restorative: to help believers identify spiritual interference accurately, apply scriptural authority rightly, and restore alignment with God's truth and freedom. By exposing how these influences attach and operate, the document equips readers to discern root causes rather than merely treating symptoms.

The overarching aim is deliverance through truth. Scripture teaches that freedom comes by knowing the truth, resisting the devil, submitting to God, and replacing deception with obedience. This document therefore serves as a practical tool for discernment, repentance, prayer, and restoration under Christ's authority.

Purpose & Scope

Purpose.

To identify, from Scripture, the primary demonic influences and attachments that oppose God's purposes, and to provide a clear biblical framework for recognizing, resisting, and breaking their influence.

Scope.

This document:

- Defines demonic influence and attachment using scriptural language and categories.
- Identifies specific spirits or influences by function and manifestation.

- Distinguishes between temptation, oppression, attachment, and bondage.
- Grounds each identified influence in explicit biblical references.
- Clarifies how demonic access is gained and sustained.
- Affirms Christ’s authority and the believer’s responsibility to resist, repent, and walk in truth.
- Provides scriptural remedies rather than experiential speculation.

What this document is not.

It is not a substitute for Christ, Scripture, repentance, or pastoral care. It is not fear-driven, superstitious, or sensational. It is a biblically disciplined diagnostic tool.

Foundational Premise

1. **Spiritual warfare is real and ongoing.**
Scripture clearly teaches that demonic forces actively oppose God’s people and purposes, seeking influence wherever truth is compromised.
2. **Demonic access is legal, not arbitrary.**
Influence and attachment occur through opened doors—sin, deception, rebellion, unforgiveness, occult involvement, idolatry, and unhealed wounds—rather than random attack.
3. **Influence is recognized by fruit.**
Jesus taught that trees are known by their fruit. Demonic activity is therefore identified by consistent patterns of thought, behavior, and outcome that contradict God’s truth and character.
4. **Christ’s authority is supreme.**
All demonic power is subordinate to Jesus Christ. Deliverance and freedom are accomplished through submission to God, resistance of the devil, and obedience to Scripture.
5. **Freedom requires replacement, not exposure alone.**
Deliverance is sustained by replacing lies with truth, sin with obedience, and bondage with righteous living empowered by the Holy Spirit.

22 Demonic Spirits — Functions, Manifestations & Biblical References

#	Spirit / Influence	Primary Function	Manifestations / Traits	Biblical References
1	Pride	Exalts self, resists humility and correction	Arrogance, self-righteousness, vanity, rebellion, judgmentalism	Proverbs 16:18; James 4:6-7; Philippians 2:3-4

#	Spirit / Influence	Primary Function	Manifestations / Traits	Biblical References
2	Fear	Paralyzes faith and trust in God	Anxiety, timidity, control issues, panic, dread	2 Timothy 1:7; 1 John 4:18; Psalm 56:3
3	Anger / Rage	Fuels hatred and destruction	Outbursts, violence, bitterness, revenge	Ephesians 4:26-31; James 1:19-20
4	Offense	Divides through hurt pride and resentment	Touchiness, grudge-holding, gossip, withdrawal	Proverbs 19:11; Matthew 6:14-15
5	Rebellion	Opposes divine authority and order	Disobedience, stubbornness, independence from God	1 Samuel 15:23; Romans 13:1-2
6	Lust	Corrupts love and purity	Perversion, pornography, adultery, idolatry of beauty	1 Thessalonians 4:3-5; Matthew 5:28
7	Jezebel	Manipulation, control, seduction, destruction of prophetic voices	Domination, deceit, false spirituality, vanity, undermining leadership	Revelation 2:20-23; 1 Kings 18:4-19
8	Ahab	Enables Jezebel by abdicating authority	Passivity, fear of confrontation, avoidance of responsibility	1 Kings 16:30-33; 22:1-37
9	Divination / Python	Counterfeits the Holy Spirit through false revelation; constriction of spiritual life	False prophecy, psychic intuition, fatigue, heaviness, twisting of truth	Acts 16:16-18; Deuteronomy 18:10-12; 1 John 4:1; 2 Corinthians 3:17
10	Confusion	Clouds understanding and discernment	Indecision, forgetfulness, delusion, double-mindedness	1 Corinthians 14:33; James 1:8
11	Deception / Lying Spirit	Twists truth to lead astray	False teaching, flattery, self-deceit, hypocrisy	John 8:44; 2 Thessalonians 2:9-12
12	Control / Manipulation	Seeks domination outside divine order	Intimidation, guilt-tripping, coercion, overbearing authority	2 Corinthians 10:4-6; Galatians 5:1
13	Rejection	Wounds identity and blocks love	Insecurity, isolation, self-hatred, approval-seeking	Psalm 27:10; Ephesians 1:6
14	Depression / Heaviness	Drains joy and immobilizes faith	Hopelessness, apathy, despair, suicidal thoughts	Isaiah 61:3; Psalm 42:11; 1 Kings 19:4
15	Addiction / Bondage	Enslaves to physical or emotional dependencies	Compulsion, obsession, loss of self-control, substance abuse	Romans 6:16; John 8:34-36
16	Division / Strife	Destroys unity and fellowship	Gossip, discord, rivalry, factionalism	1 Corinthians 1:10; Proverbs 6:16-19
17	Poverty	Restricts provision, promotes lack and defeatism	Fear of giving, hoarding, greed, chronic need	Philippians 4:19; 2 Corinthians 9:8; Proverbs 10:4

#	Spirit / Influence	Primary Function	Manifestations / Traits	Biblical References
18	Witchcraft / Sorcery	Gains power through rebellion and manipulation	Spells, curses, crystals, rituals, “Christian witchcraft”	Galatians 5:19-21; Micah 5:12; Exodus 22:18
19	Death / Suicide	Destroys hope and desire for life	Despair, obsession with death, self-harm, fatalism	John 10:10; Psalm 118:17; Romans 5:12
20	Sickness / Infirmary	Afflicts body or mind to weaken faith	Chronic illness, fatigue, pain, anxiety-related ailments	Luke 13:11-16; James 5:14-16
21	Harlotry / Idolatry	Replaces loyalty to God with worldly attachments or false religion	Materialism, syncretism, spiritual adultery, compromise	Exodus 20:3-5; 1 John 5:21; Jeremiah 3:6-10
22	Antichrist	Opposes Christ and His work; root of rebellion and deception	Denial of Jesus’ divinity, false peace, religious tolerance of sin, promoting “enlightenment” instead of grace	1 John 2:18-22; 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4; Revelation 13:1-8

22 Demonic Spirits — Functions & Manifestations

1. Pride

- **Function:** Exalts self above God and others; resists humility.
 - **Manifestations:** Arrogance, self-righteousness, vanity, judgmentalism, rebellion, refusal to repent.
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2. Fear

- **Function:** Paralyzes faith; induces anxiety and avoidance of God.
 - **Manifestations:** Panic, timidity, worry, dread of the future, controlling behavior.
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3. Anger / Rage

- **Function:** Destroys peace and relationships.
 - **Manifestations:** Outbursts, violence, bitterness, vengeful thoughts, irritability.
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4. Offense

- **Function:** Breeds resentment and division.
 - **Manifestations:** Easily hurt feelings, grudges, passive aggression, gossip, withdrawal.
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5. Rebellion

- **Function:** Opposes authority and divine order.
 - **Manifestations:** Stubbornness, disobedience, rejection of correction, justification of sin.
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6. Lust

- **Function:** Corrupts love and purity.
 - **Manifestations:** Sexual immorality, fantasy, pornography, adultery, idolatry of beauty or pleasure.
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7. Jezebel

- **Function:** Manipulation, control, seduction; undermines leadership and prophetic voices.
 - **Manifestations:** Deception, domination, intimidation, false spirituality, vanity, undermining authority.
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8. Ahab

- **Function:** Enables Jezebel through passivity; abdicates responsibility.
 - **Manifestations:** Fear of confrontation, avoidance, spiritual apathy, lack of accountability.
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9. Divination / Python Spirit

- **Function:** Counterfeits the Holy Spirit; produces false revelation and constriction of spiritual life.
- **Manifestations:** False prophecy, psychic “intuition,” counterfeit dreams, fatigue, heaviness, twisting of truth, distraction in prayer or worship, pride in “special revelation.”

10. Confusion

- **Function:** Clouds understanding and discernment.
 - **Manifestations:** Indecision, forgetfulness, double-mindedness, mental fog, delusion.
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11. Deception / Lying Spirit

- **Function:** Twists truth to mislead or manipulate.
 - **Manifestations:** False teaching, hypocrisy, exaggeration, self-deception, manipulation.
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12. Control / Manipulation

- **Function:** Seeks to dominate people or situations outside God's will.
 - **Manifestations:** Intimidation, coercion, guilt-tripping, overbearing leadership, manipulation of truth.
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13. Rejection

- **Function:** Wounds identity and blocks acceptance.
 - **Manifestations:** Insecurity, self-hatred, loneliness, people-pleasing, fear of relationships.
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14. Depression / Heaviness

- **Function:** Steals joy and immobilizes faith.
 - **Manifestations:** Hopelessness, apathy, despair, chronic sadness, suicidal thoughts.
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15. Addiction / Bondage

- **Function:** Enslaves to physical, emotional, or spiritual dependencies.
 - **Manifestations:** Compulsion, obsessive behavior, substance abuse, inability to break habits.
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16. Division / Strife

- **Function:** Destroys unity among people or communities.
 - **Manifestations:** Discord, gossip, rivalry, factions, betrayal.
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17. Poverty

- **Function:** Promotes lack, fear, and defeatist thinking.
 - **Manifestations:** Scarcity mindset, hoarding, greed, fear of giving, financial insecurity.
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18. Witchcraft / Sorcery

- **Function:** Uses spiritual manipulation and rebellion for personal gain.
 - **Manifestations:** Spells, curses, new-age rituals, crystals, occult practices, manipulation of others spiritually.
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19. Death / Suicide

- **Function:** Seeks destruction of life and hope.
 - **Manifestations:** Obsession with death, self-harm, despair, fatalism, hopelessness.
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20. Sickness / Infirmary

- **Function:** Afflicts body or mind to weaken faith and productivity.
 - **Manifestations:** Chronic illness, fatigue, recurring pain, anxiety-related physical symptoms.
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21. Harlotry / Idolatry

- **Function:** Replaces loyalty to God with worldly attachments or false religion.
 - **Manifestations:** Materialism, syncretism, spiritual adultery, compromise, obsession with wealth or status, mixing false teaching with truth.
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22. Antichrist

- **Function:** Opposes Christ and His work; root of deception and rebellion.
 - **Manifestations:** Denial of Jesus' divinity, promoting tolerance of sin, false peace, "enlightenment" replacing grace, counterfeit unity apart from truth.
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Summary & Conclusion

This document establishes that demonic influences and attachments operate through identifiable patterns that Scripture clearly describes and warns against. Pride, fear, deception, rebellion, control, division, idolatry, and death are not merely psychological or cultural phenomena; they are spiritual strategies employed to separate individuals and societies from God's truth and life.

The biblical response is neither denial nor obsession, but discernment and obedience. Scripture instructs believers to test spirits, resist the devil, repent where doors have been opened, and stand firm in the authority of Christ. When lies are exposed and replaced with truth, demonic influence loses its legal ground and must yield.

Importantly, this work affirms that freedom is not achieved through naming spirits alone, but through alignment with God—humility, repentance, forgiveness, submission, and renewed thinking according to Scripture. The goal is restoration, not fixation on darkness.

The conclusion is clear and hopeful:

Where truth is embraced, authority is exercised, and obedience is restored, demonic influence cannot remain. Christ's victory is sufficient, final, and enforceable.

****APPENDIX A — Scripture References (Full Text, NIV)**

with Spirit Influence Labels**

1. PRIDE

Proverbs 16:18

"Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall."

James 4:6–7

“But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: ‘God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.’ Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.”

2. FEAR

2 Timothy 1:7

“For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline.”

1 John 4:18

**“There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.”*

3. ANGER / RAGE

Ephesians 4:26–27

“‘In your anger do not sin’: Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foothold.”

James 1:19–20

“My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires.”

4. OFFENSE

Proverbs 19:11

“A person’s wisdom yields patience; it is to one’s glory to overlook an offense.”

Matthew 6:14–15

“For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.”

5. REBELLION

1 Samuel 15:23

“For rebellion is like the sin of divination, and arrogance like the evil of idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, he has rejected you as king.”

Romans 13:1–2

**“Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God.”*

6. LUST

1 Thessalonians 4:3–5

“It is God’s will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; that each of you should learn to control your own body in a way that is holy and honorable, not in passionate lust like the pagans, who do not know God.”

Matthew 5:28

“But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.”

7. JEZEBEL

Revelation 2:20–21

“Nevertheless, I have this against you: You tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophet. By her teaching she misleads my servants into sexual immorality and the eating of food sacrificed to idols. I have given her time to repent of her immorality, but she is unwilling.”

1 Kings 18:4

“While Jezebel was killing off the LORD’s prophets, Obadiah had taken a hundred prophets and hidden them in two caves, fifty in each, and had supplied them with food and water.”

8. AHAB

1 Kings 21:25

“There was never anyone like Ahab, who sold himself to do evil in the eyes of the LORD, urged on by Jezebel his wife.”

9. DIVINATION / PYTHON SPIRIT

Acts 16:16–18

“Once when we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a female slave who had a spirit by which she predicted the future. She earned a great deal of money for her owners by fortune-telling... Finally Paul became so annoyed that he turned around and said to the spirit, ‘In the name of Jesus Christ I command you to come out of her!’ At that moment the spirit left her.”

Deuteronomy 18:10–12

“Let no one be found among you who sacrifices their son or daughter in the fire, who practices divination or sorcery, interprets omens, engages in witchcraft, or casts spells, or who is a medium or spiritist or who consults the dead. Anyone who does these things is detestable to the LORD.”

10. CONFUSION

1 Corinthians 14:33

“For God is not a God of disorder but of peace—as in all the congregations of the Lord’s people.”

James 1:8

“Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do.”

11. DECEPTION / LYING SPIRIT

John 8:44

**“You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father’s desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth*

2 Thessalonians 2:9–12

**“The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with how Satan works. He will use all sorts of displays of power through signs and wonders that serve the lie, and all the ways that wickedness deceives those who are perishing. They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. For this reason, God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie and so that all will be condemned who have not believed the truth but have delighted in wickedness.”*

12. CONTROL / MANIPULATION

2 Corinthians 10:4–5

**“The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. And we will be ready to punish every act of disobedience, once your obedience is complete.”*

Galatians 5:1

“It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.”

13. REJECTION

Psalms 27:10

“Though my father and mother forsake me, the LORD will receive me.”

Ephesians 1:6

“To the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves.”

14. DEPRESSION / HEAVINESS

Isaiah 61:3

“And provide for those who grieve in Zion—to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair.”

Psalm 42:11

**“Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God.”*

1 Kings 19:4

“While he himself went a day’s journey into the wilderness, he came to a broom bush, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. ‘I have had enough, LORD,’ he said. ‘Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors.’”

15. ADDICTION / BONDAGE

Romans 6:16

“Don’t you know that when you offer yourselves to someone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one you obey—whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness?”

John 8:34–36

“Jesus replied, ‘Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.’”

16. DIVISION / STRIFE

1 Corinthians 1:10

“I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought.”

Proverbs 6:16–19

*“There are six things the LORD hates, seven that are detestable to him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that are quick to rush into evil, a false witness who pours out lies and a person who stirs up conflict in the community.”

17. POVERTY

Philippians 4:19

“And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.”

2 Corinthians 9:8

“And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.”

Proverbs 10:4

“Lazy hands make for poverty, but diligent hands bring wealth.”

18. WITCHCRAFT / SORCERY

Galatians 5:19–21

“The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.”

Micah 5:12

“I will destroy your witchcraft and you will no longer cast spells.”

Exodus 22:18

“Do not allow a sorceress to live.”

19. DEATH / SUICIDE

John 10:10

“The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.”

Psalm 118:17

“I will not die but live, and will proclaim what the LORD has done.”

Romans 5:12

“Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned—”

20. SICKNESS / INFIRMITY

Luke 13:11–16

“...and a woman was there who had been crippled by a spirit for eighteen years. She was bent over and could not straighten up at all. When Jesus saw her, he called her forward and said to her, ‘Woman, you are set free from your infirmity.’ Then he put his hands on her, and immediately she straightened up and praised God.”

James 5:14–16

“Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven.”

21. HARLOTRY / IDOLATRY

Exodus 20:3–5

“You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God...”

Jeremiah 3:6–10

“During the reign of King Josiah, the LORD said to me, ‘Have you seen what faithless Israel has done? She has gone up on every high hill and under every spreading tree and has committed adultery there... Yet in spite of all this, her unfaithful sister Judah did not return to me with all her heart, but only in pretense,’ declares the LORD.”

1 John 5:21

“Dear children, keep yourselves from idols.”

22. ANTICHRIST

1 John 2:18–22

“Dear children, this is the last hour; and as you have heard that the antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come. This is how we know it is the last hour... Who is the liar? It is whoever denies that Jesus is the Christ. Such a person is the antichrist—denying the Father and the Son.”

2 Thessalonians 2:3–4

“Don’t let anyone deceive you in any way, for that day will not come until the rebellion occurs and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the man doomed to destruction. He will oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in God’s temple, proclaiming himself to be God.”

Revelation 13:7–8

**“It was given power to wage war against God’s holy people and to conquer them. And it was given authority over every tribe language and people. All inhabitants of the earth will worship the beast—all whose names have not been written in the Lamb’s book of life, the Lamb who was slain.*