

Does Jesus believe in the supernatural?

Luke 4:31-37, 8:26-39, 9:37-45



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22/11/2009

1. The supernatural and popular western culture

2. Jesus - our champion in the spiritual battle

Inherent authority

Absolute power

Loving compassion

3. Reality vs Hollywood / East vs West

4. Engaging the enemy Ephesians 6:10-20

“Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. 9 Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings.” 1 Peter 5:8, 9.

5. The final outcome is certain Colossians 2:15

“And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.”

*And though this world were full of fiends all lurking to devour us
we tremble not nor fear their bands, they shall not overpower us
The prince of this world's ill may scowl upon us still,
he cannot do us harm, to judgment he has come: one word shall swiftly slay him*
Martin Luther

Connect Group discussion questions:

1. What do you think are the main contrasts between Hollywood/TV's portrayal of the supernatural and the way it is portrayed in the New Testament?
2. Read Martin Luther's Hymn "A mighty stronghold is our God" (Aust Hymn Book #8). List the reasons he gives for his confidence as he fights the spiritual battles of life. Do you share this confidence? What biblical basis could he have for this confidence?
3. Read Mark's account of the Father of the son (Mark 9:14-32). Why are the disciples unable to heal the boy? What do you think the boy's father means by his statement "I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief"? Do you ever feel like this?
4. You pass a shop offering palm reading and Tarot readings. Your friend thinks it could be a bit of fun to try. How would you respond? What biblical reason could you give her to help convince her not to try it?
5. Read Luke 9:26-39 again. List all the contrasts between the man in his demon possessed state and the man after he is healed. How would you answer someone who says that Jesus did the wrong thing allowing evil spirits to enter 2000 pigs (Mark's number) and destroy them?