

Are There (Literal) Demonic Spirits in Our Halls of Congress?

As reported by Charisma News, during his opening prayer last Thursday morning, “Rev. Pat Conroy, chaplain for the U.S. House of Representatives, cast out “spirits of darkness” from Congress.” But are there literal “spirits of darkness” that need to be driven out from the chambers of Congress? Of course!

There are demonic spirits all over the world, especially in places of influence and power. Why wouldn’t they be active in our halls of Congress?

The Charisma article notes that Rev. Conroy began his prayer by stating that, “This has been a difficult and contentious week in which darker spirits seem to have been at play in the people’s house.” Conroy then proceeded to “cast out all spirits of darkness from this chamber, spirits not from You.”

He continued, “I cast out the spirit of discouragement, which deadens the hope of those who are of good will. I cast out the spirit of petty divisiveness, which clouds the sense and the desire to be of fruitful productivity in addressing the issues more appropriately before this House. I cast out any sadness brought on by the frustration of dealing with matters detrimental to the honorable work each member has been called to engage in.”

He also prayed for an environment of unity “so that any spirit of darkness might have no place in our midst.”

Now, I can’t comment on which demonic spirits are or are not at work in Congress, nor can I comment on whether Rev. Conroy’s prayer was effective.

But I can say that demons are real, that they are destructive and divisive, and that they help carry out their master Satan's plans on the earth.

As Paul wrote, "For our fight is not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, and against spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places" (Eph. 6:12).

He was not exaggerating.

We are in a spiritual battle, and the spiritual realm is real.

There are angels and demons in the unseen realm as surely as there are rocks and trees in the visible realm. And these angels and demons have direct impact on the world in which we live.

That doesn't mean that we focus on them. And it certainly doesn't mean that we abdicate our own responsibility, as in, "The devil made me do it."

We alone are responsible for our choices and actions. And we alone are to blame for the wrong things we do, no matter how much Satan and his minions may have tempted us.

But we would be foolish to ignore the realities of the spiritual realm.

Jesus certainly didn't, regularly casting demonic spirits out of people.

The apostles certainly didn't, also casting out demonic spirits and urging us to resist Satan (for the latter, see especially James 4:7; 1 Pet. 5:8-9).

Paul also wrote that we should not be outwitted by Satan, "for we are not ignorant of his designs" (2 Cor. 2:11b, ESV).

That applies both individually and corporately, as we

understand that Satan intends to destroy people, both on a personal and a national level.

In a future article, I intend to tell a wild (but very true) story about my personal encounter with what you could call the spirit of Jezebel.

For the moment, though, let me explain how the light went on for me while writing my newest book, *Jezebel's War With America: The Plot to Destroy Our Country and What We Can Do to Turn the Tide*. This speaks of demonic attacks on the nation as a whole.

To explain, I saw in the Bible that this wicked queen named Jezebel was associated with idolatry, murder, sexual immorality and sorcery. I saw how she emasculated men, intimidated by fear, and silenced the prophets.

You could call her the first radical feminist, and she seemed to be supernaturally empowered, so imposing was her character. At one point, even the mighty prophet Elijah, one of the most fearless men in recorded history, ran in fear from her threats.

I also saw how the New Testament referred to a false prophetess as "Jezebel," also associating her with sexual immorality and idolatry.

Then I looked at the landscape of America today, with the rise in idolatry and the epidemic of porn. With the murderous "shout your abortion" movement." With the increase in radical feminism and witchcraft. With the emasculating of men and the war on gender. With the silencing of prophetic voices through fear.

Yes, I realized on a national level, it's Jezebel once again. The same demonic spirits which operated through this wicked woman are operating again today. And they are doing so in definite, pronounced and aggressive fashion.

We were not dealing with these same issues on these levels one or two generations ago. But now they are everywhere, in epidemic proportions.

Yet there is no reason to cower in fear. To understand the enemy is to unmask the enemy. And by unmasking the enemy, we can defeat the enemy, in the power of Jesus' name, by the Word of God and in the power of the Spirit.

It's time to cast out Jezebel. Are you with me?

It's time for (spiritual) war.