



TABOO TWO:

The Elephant Strikes Back



REVIEW

- Disagreement is OK, come have a conversation
- When reviewing resources, who is your highest priority?
- Men and Women are different and valuable
- Sometimes understanding Scripture takes effort and disagreement is OK.
- Sin must be addressed seriously and lovingly
- Dwell on things that make us more like Jesus

The Enemy

- Satan



1 Peter 5:8

Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.



The Enemy

- Satan
- Demons



Ephesians 6:11

For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood,
but against the rulers, against the authorities,
against the cosmic powers over this present
darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in
the heavenly places.



The Enemy

- Satan
- Demons
- Humans (primarily ourselves)



James 1:14-15

But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. 15 Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.



Tactics

- Possession



Matthew 8:28-33

And when he came to the other side, to the country of the Gadarenes, two **demon-possessed men** met him, coming out of the tombs, **so fierce that no one could pass that way.**



Matthew 8:28-33

29 And behold, **they cried out**, “What have you to do with us, O Son of God? **Have you come here to torment us before the time?**” 30 Now a herd of many pigs was feeding at some distance from them. 31 And the demons begged him, saying, “If you cast us out, send us away into the herd of pigs.”



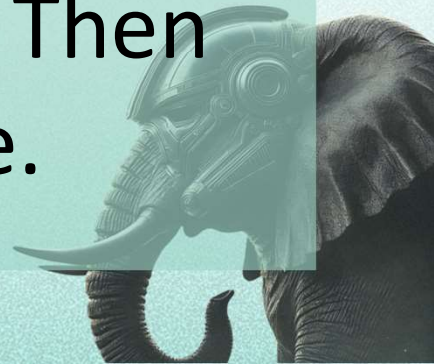
Matthew 8:28-33

32 And he said to them, “Go.” So they came out and went into the pigs, and behold, the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea and drowned in the waters.



Matthew 12:28-29

But if it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. 29 Or **how can someone enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man?** Then indeed he may plunder his house.



Tactics

- Possession
- Spectacle



Acts 19:13-17

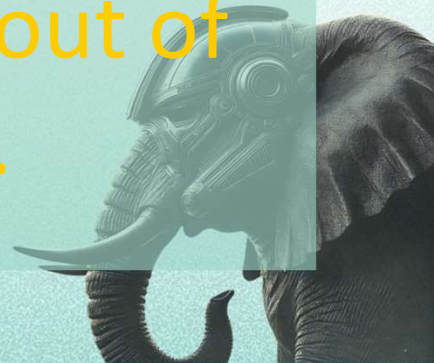
13 Then some of the itinerant Jewish exorcists undertook to invoke the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits, saying, “I adjure you by the Jesus whom Paul proclaims.” 14 Seven sons of a Jewish high priest named Sceva were doing this.



Acts 19:13-17

15 But the evil spirit answered them, “Jesus I know, and Paul I recognize, but who are you?”

16 And the man in whom was the evil spirit leaped on them, mastered all of them and overpowered them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded.



Tactics

- Possession
- Spectacle
- Opression



Matthew 4:1

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.



Oppression

- Pain (Job)
- Temptation (Jesus)
- Lies



Genesis 3:1-4

He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden’?” 2 And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, 3 but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’” 4 But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die.





The Devil's Greatest Lie

You Can Do It!

The Fix

- Filled with Holy Spirit (Matthew 12)
- Clear on God's Truth (Matthew 4)
- Prayer



Mark 9:28-29

And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, “Why could we not cast it out?” 29 And he said to them, “**This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer.**”



Matthew 26:41

Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”



Galatians 5:19-21

Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, 20 idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, 21 envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these.



Galatians 5:22-23

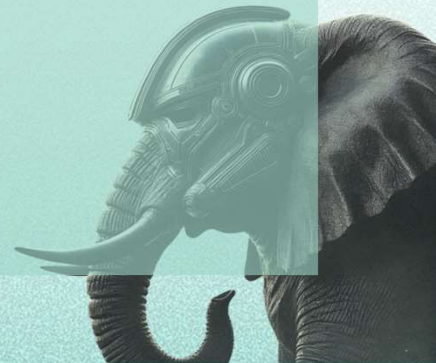
But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.



No Sin Stronger!

- Sexual Immorality
- Impurity/Sensuality
- Idolatry
- Sorcery
- Enmity/Strife
- Jealousy/Envy
- Anger
- Rivalries
- Dissension/Division
- Drunkenness

- Love
- Joy
- Peace
- Patience
- Kindness
- Goodness
- Faithfulness
- Gentleness
- Self-Control



SO WHAT?

- There is nothing to fear
- There is reason to be sober minded and alert
- PRAY, as though your life depends on it. Because it does!



TIME OF GIVING

Online giving is also available on our church website,
www.westmiddlebury.org, and on our Tithely app.

Offering boxes are
available at both entrances.

2 Corinthians 9:7

