

The Assessment

Luke 11:14-28

#1: The Kingdom Has Come Upon You (vs. 14-20)

¹⁴ Now he was casting out a demon that was mute. When the demon had gone out, the mute man spoke, and the people marveled. ¹⁵ But some of them said, "He casts out demons by Beelzebul, the prince of demons," ¹⁶ while others, to test him, kept seeking from him a sign from heaven. ¹⁷ But he, knowing their thoughts, said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and a divided household falls. ¹⁸ And if Satan also is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? For you say that I cast out demons by Beelzebul. ¹⁹ And if I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges. ²⁰ But if it is by the finger of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

1. **The Miracle** (v. 14)
2. **The Skeptics' Response** (vs.15-16)
 - a. **Rejection** (v. 15)
 - b. **Demand for More Signs** (v. 16)
3. **Jesus' Response** (vs. 17-23)
 - a. **A House Divided** (17-18)
 - b. **By the Finger of God** (20)

#2: Jesus has Overthrown Satan (vs. 21-23)

²¹ When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own palace, his goods are safe; ²² but when one stronger than he attacks him and overcomes him, he takes away his armor in which he trusted and divides his spoil. ²³ Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters.

#3: Return of an Unclean Spirit (vs. 24-26)

*²⁴ "When the unclean spirit has gone out of a person, it passes through waterless places seeking rest, and finding none it says, 'I will return to my house from which I came.'
²⁵ And when it comes, it finds the house swept and put in order. ²⁶ Then it goes and brings seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they enter and dwell there. And the last state of that person is worse than the first."*

- **Our old demons will check in on us**
- **We can't pull ourselves up by our own bootstraps**
- **We need something to fill the gap**

"There are two ways in which a practical moralist may attempt to displace from the human heart its love for the world — either by a demonstration of the world's vanity, so that the heart shall be prevailed upon simply to withdraw its regards from an object that

is not worthy of it; or, by setting forth another object, even God, as more worthy of its attachment, so that the heart shall be prevailed upon not to resign an old affection, which shall have nothing to succeed it, but to exchange an old affection for a new one... From the constitution of our nature, the former method is altogether incompetent and ineffectual, and the latter method will alone suffice for the rescue and recovery of the heart from the wrong affection that domineers over it.”

~ Thomas Chalmers, *The Expulsive Power of a New Affection*

#4: Truly Blessed (vs. 27-28)

²⁷ As he said these things, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to him, “Blessed is the womb that bore you, and the breasts at which you nursed!” ²⁸ But he said, “Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!”

#5: What is Your Assessment?

- Is Jesus despised in your heart?
- Is Jesus someone who needs to prove himself to you?
- Is Jesus your Lord?