1 John 3:8 "The one who does what is sinful is of the devil,
because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was **to destroy the devil's work**." (NIV)

Matthew 4:23-24 "[23] Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of **the kingdom**, and healing every disease and **sickness** among the people. [24] News about Him spread all over Syria, and people brought to Him all who were ill with various diseases, those suffering severe pain, the **demon-possessed**, those having seizures, and the paralyzed; and He healed them." (NIV)

CAUSES OF DEMONIZATION

1. Active SEEKING.

Deuteronomy 18:10-11 "[10] 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, [11] or casts spells, or who is a medium or spiritist or who consults the dead.

2. Gross SIN.

1 John 3:8 "The one who does what is sinful is of the devil,
because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work." (NIV)

3. Spiritual 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." (NIV)

4. OCCULT activities.

1 Corinthians 10:20 "No, but the sacrifices of pagans are offered to demons, not to God, and I do not want you to be participants with demons." (NIV)

5. Unresolved ANGER and BITTERNESS.

Ephesians 4:26-27 "[26] "In your anger do not sin": Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, [27] and do not give **the devil** a foothold." (NIV)

6. ENVY and SELFISH ambition.

James 3:14-16 "[14] But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. [15] Such "wisdom" does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, **demonic**. [16] For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice." (NIV)

NT EVIDENCE OF DEMONIC INFLUENCE

1. Severe SICKNESS.

Matthew 12:22 "Then they brought him a demon-possessed man who was blind and mute, and Jesus healed him, so that he could both talk and see." (NIV)

2. DIVINATION.

Acts 16:16 "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." (NIV)

3. Unusual PHYSICAL STRENGTH,

Mark 5:2-4 "[2] When Jesus got out of the boat, a man with an impure spirit came from the tombs to meet him. [3] This man lived in the tombs, and no one could bind him anymore, not even with a chain. [4] For he had often been chained hand and foot, but he tore the chains apart and broke the irons on his feet. No one was strong enough to subdue him." (NIV)

4. Fits of RAGE.

Mark 5:7 "He **shouted at the top of his voice**, "What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? In God's name don't torture me!" (NIV)

5. RESISTANCE to spiritual help.

Mark 5:7 "… "What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? In God's name don't torture me!" (NIV)

6. Other VOICES or PERSONALITIES from within.

Mark 5:9 "Then Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" "My name is Legion," he replied, "for we are many." (NIV)

7. Occult POWERS.

Deuteronomy 18:10-11 "[10] 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, [11] or casts spells, or who is a medium or spiritist or who consults the dead.

8. False TEACHING.

1 Timothy 4:1 "The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons." (NIV)

HOW TO FIND FREEDOM

1. RECOGNIZE Christ's victory.

Colossians 2:15 "And having disarmed the powers and authorities, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross." (NIV)

2. RECEIVE Christ as Lord and Savior.

John 1:12 "Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God …" (NIV)

1 John 4:4 "You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world." (NIV)

3. REPENT of known sin.

1 John 1:9 "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." (NIV)

4. RENOUNCE the works of the devil.

2 Corinthians 4:2 "Rather, we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God." (NIV)

5. REMOVE any satanic objects.

Acts 19:19 "A number who had practiced sorcery brought their scrolls together and burned them publicly. When they calculated the value of the scrolls, the total came to fifty thousand drachmas." (NIV)

6. RELINQUISH unholy relationships.

2 Corinthians 6:14-16 "14 Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness? 15 What harmony is there between Christ and Belial? Or what does a believer have in common with an unbeliever? 16 What agreement is there between the temple of God and idols? For we are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will live with them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they will be my people." (NIV)

7. REST in Christ's deliverance.

Colossians 1:13-14 "13 For He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son He loves, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins." (NIV)

8. RESIST the devil.

James 4:7-8 "7 Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 8 Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded." (NIV)