

● **What if I have been involved in dangerous areas?**

Have you ever been involved in these activities? The list is not complete — allow the Holy Spirit to bring to mind any other areas.

• **Repent**

Make no excuses. Tell God that you are sorry for your involvement. Admit that you were wrong. Ask God for forgiveness — remember *1 John Ch 1: v 9*. You need have no fear. Forgive those who have wronged you.

• **Renounce**

Clearly state *to the enemy* that you have left his province and now belong to God. Tell Satan that you break any previous contracts!

* **James Ch 4: v 7**

Whom do we submit to? _____

Whom do we resist? _____

What will the devil do? _____

• **Destroy**

Destroy all objects connected with the occult. It may mean getting rid of charms, books, pictures, statues, letters, discs, media, music, horoscopes, masks etc.



* **Acts Ch 19: v 18-19**

What did these Ephesians destroy? _____

• **Break**

...If in doubt, throw it out!

Break all contact with these activities. This might mean seeing less of certain friends etc. Pray much and seek the will of God in the matter.

• **Be filled with the Holy Spirit**

* **Matthew Ch 12: v 43-45** Don't leave yourself empty!

Some people who have been involved in these dangerous areas need special help and deliverance. Don't be afraid to talk with your church leaders if you think that you have problems.

Some symptoms of possible demonic involvement

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| • Prolonged deep depression | • Evil dreams |
| • Fits of temper and violence | • Fascination with sex, pornography |
| • Irrational fears | • Some illnesses |
| • Obsessive suicidal thoughts | • Hate, fear, rejection, jealousy |
| • Blasphemous thoughts | • Addictions |

Know the Enemy



● **Satan — who is he?**

Extra Bible study

- * **Genesis Ch 3**
- * **Luke Ch 10: v 18**
- * **Revelation Ch 12: v 7-9**
- * **Job Ch 1-2**
- * **Isaiah Ch 14: v 12-15**
- * **Ezekiel Ch 28: v 12-19**

From beginning to end, the Bible takes for granted the existence of Satan. He is a *personal*, spiritual being who is the *source of evil* in the world and he is bitterly opposed to the purposes of God.

We have no detailed account of where he came from but there are a few clues (see extra Bible study). It seems that he was a responsible angel who was filled with pride and rebelled against God with a number of other angels (these became demons). **His power is not equal to that of God** and he can only operate by the permission of God.

* **Revelation Ch 12: v 9**

What *four* descriptions are given here?

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

* **John Ch 8: v 42-47**

If God is your Father, what is your attitude to Jesus?

_____ (v 42)

Who is the father of those who do not hear or believe in Jesus? _____

Find two characteristics of the devil (v 44).

- _____
- _____

* **1 Peter Ch 5: v 8-9**

What else is the devil like?

● *What does Satan do?*

Gen Ch 3: v 13	
Luke Ch 4: v 1-2	
Luke Ch 8: v 12	
Luke Ch 13: v 16	
Acts Ch 5: v 3	
1 Thess Ch 2: v 17-18	

* 2 Corinthians Ch 11: v 14

How does Satan disguise himself? _____

There is no doubt that Satan is unhappy that you have changed your allegiance and have become a follower of Jesus. He will do all he can to *deceive you, destroy your faith, lead you into sin and spoil your life*. As Christians, we are in a battle, but we need not fear since we have all the resources of God at our disposal.

* Colossians Ch 1: v 13

What has God rescued you from? _____

What has he brought you into? _____

● *Satan is defeated*

* 1 John Ch 3: v 8

Whom are we following when we sin? _____

Why did Jesus come? _____

* Hebrews Ch 2: v 14

How did Jesus overcome the devil? _____

In a war there is often a *decisive battle* which makes the outcome of the war certain. Our decisive battle was won by Jesus on the cross. The devil is around at the moment and we are engaged in skirmishes but we are on the victory side. Satan's days are numbered and eventually he will be destroyed (*Revelation Ch 20: v 10*).

● *'Supernatural' – from God or the devil?*

* Deuteronomy Ch 13: v 1-3

How do we distinguish the true prophet from the false prophet?

* Deuteronomy Ch 18: v 9-14

Write down some of the forbidden activities mentioned here:

What does God think of them? _____

Everybody has a *spiritual void* in their lives which should be filled with the things of God. Satan offers poor substitutes to fill the gap and so people try to find satisfaction in the occult, religion, philosophy, art, sex etc. In some of these areas men and women are dangerously exposed to Satanic and demonic activity.

Some areas of demonic activity

Meditation

- Transcendental Meditation
- Astral Projection
- Hypnotism
- Yoga
- Religions & cults

Fortune telling

- Horoscopes
- Astrology
- Tarot cards
- Crystal balls
- Mirror mantics
- Palm reading
- Tea leaves

Magic

- Casting spells
- Wearing charms
- Black/White magic
- Satanism
- Witchcraft
- Halloween

Psychic phenomena

- Ouija boards
- Occult games
- Levitation
- Extra Sensory Perception
- Clairvoyance
- Clairaudience
- Water divining
- Seances
- Spiritism
- Spiritualist healing

Other possible areas

- Occult books
- Occult plays and films
- Music by occult groups
- Horror films
- Some science fiction
- Effect of drugs
- Fairy stories & fantasy
- Sexual perversion
- Martial arts
- Emotional problems