

## What Has Happened to the Party Animals? by John T Polk II

All Scriptures and comments are based on the **New King James Version**, unless otherwise noted.

**QUESTION**: What has happened to the "party animals" I knew?"

## ANSWER:

Read Matthew 17:14-21; Mark 9:14-27; Luke 9:37-42 and learn of a man's "only child" who was demon-possessed.

"Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and suffers severely; for he often falls into the fire and often into the water" (Matthew 17:15);

Then they brought him to Him. And when he saw Him, immediately the spirit convulsed him, and he fell on the ground and wallowed, foaming at the mouth. So He asked his father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. And often he has thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us" (Mark 9:20-22);

Then Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the child, and gave him back to his father. (Luke 9:42).

## This shows:

- 1. There is no such "demon-possession" today. In God's history of man, this demonic power existed only in New Testament times until Scriptures were completed, and only allowed by God to prove that Satan had fallen under God's power (Luke 10:17-20; Revelation 12:7-12). There is no such thing as "exorcism" today, for all Jesus had to do was command the "spirit" to leave and return no more (Mark 9:25-26), and he left. Demon-possession has left this earth, never to return again!
- 2. Though the Devil today cannot miraculously overwhelm anyone, he still may influence people to "lie," "murder," "pervert the straight ways of the Lord," be "puffed up with pride," and other sins (John 8:44; Acts 13:10; 1 Timothy 3:6). Since then, we are "those who will believe in Me through their word" (John 17:20), so we can "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith" (1 Peter 5:8-9; Jude 3).
- 3. While one may "enjoy the passing pleasures of sin" (Hebrews 11:25), there is much damage done to all those who so enjoy. Much like a demonpossession, people lose control of themselves, falling and wallowing on the ground, foaming at the mouth, being burned up or drowned.

[Does this sound like a drug/alcohol dance party? Like drunk sailors,

They reel to and fro, and stagger like a drunken man, And are at their wits' end (Psalm 107:27).

Are they having "fun," yet?

But they also have erred through wine, And through intoxicating drink are out of the way; The priest and the prophet have erred through intoxicating drink, They are swallowed up by wine, They are out of the way through intoxicating drink; They err in vision, they stumble injudgment (**Isaiah 28:7**).

This "pleasure of sin" can even affect otherwise "good people," like a priest or prophet (in Old Testament times), but is never excusable.]

So-called "party animals" are left:

- 1. with ruined body functions and physical damage;
- without friends who have "wised-up," many of whom have converted to Jesus Christ (1 Peter 4:1-6);
- 3. retreating into the protection and safety of the rules they lived to ignore or break.

Jesus healed this "child, and gave him back to his father" (**Luke 9:42**). After people have "journeyed to a far country, and there wasted [their] possessions with prodigal living" they want to come home (**Luke 15:13, 20**). Without Jesus Christ, there is no power to overcome sin & the Devil!

— JTPII