

1 & 2 Samuel Series

Lesson #063

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Dean Bible Ministries

www.deanbibleministries.org

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THE BATTLE IS THE LORD'S

**CAN CHRISTIANS BE
DEMON POSSESSED?**

1 SAMUEL 16:14–23

1 Sam. 16:14, “But the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and a distressing spirit from the LORD troubled him.”

סור *sur* qal perf 3 fem
sing to withdraw, depart,
turn aside from

רע *raʿ* fem sing
abs
bad, evil

מֵעִם *me'im*
compound,
“from” +
“with”

בַּעַת *bāʿat*
to be overtaken by
sudden terror, to terrify,
torment, afflict,
distress, extreme fear
that incapacitates

The Angelic Rebellion

5. *Demon influence* or demonic oppression can occur to anyone.

***Demon influence* is when a person is thinking according to the devil's thinking. This is described as “worldliness” in the Bible. A Christian or a non-Christian is demon-influenced when they operate according to any values, philosophies, religions, opinions, and world-views contrary to the divine viewpoint of the Bible.**

6. Demon possession describes the invasion of the body of a non-Christian by a demon. The demon can control the unbeliever's physical actions from a position within the unbeliever.

Saul was not demon-possessed.

7. New Testament Warnings About Demon Influence

1 Cor. 10:20 says sacrificing to idols is sacrificing to demons

1 Tim. 4:1 warns about deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons

2 Cor. 11:14–15 warns of their deceptive appearance as servants of righteousness

James 3:13–15 identifies human viewpoint or the worldly wisdom as demonic

“Can a Christian be demonized? For a number of years I questioned this, but now I am convinced it can occur. If a ‘ground of entrance’ has been granted the power of darkness (such as trafficking in the occult, a continual unforgiving spirit, a habitual state of carnality, etc.) the demon(s) sees this as a green light—okay to proceed ...”

~Chuck Swindoll, *Demonism*

“I have worked personally with troubled, anguished Christians for many years. On a few occasions I have assisted in the painful process of delivering them of demons ... while present within the body (perhaps in the region of the soul) that evil force can wreck havoc within the life.”

~Chuck Swindoll

**Can a Christian Be . . .
Demon Possessed?**



Argument Against Demon Possession of a Christian

**Major Premise: The Holy Spirit indwells every
believer.**

**Minor Premise: A demon and the Holy Spirit
cannot be in the same place.**

**CONCLUSION: Therefore a Christian cannot have
both a demon and the Holy Spirit in the same
place.**

WRONG: Poorly constructed argument

1. *The Indwelling of the Holy Spirit.* Every believer in the Lord Jesus Christ is indwelt by the Holy Spirit from the instant of salvation (1 Cor. 3:16; 6:19).

1 Corinthians 3:16, “Do you not know that you are the temple of God and *that* the Spirit of God dwells in you?”

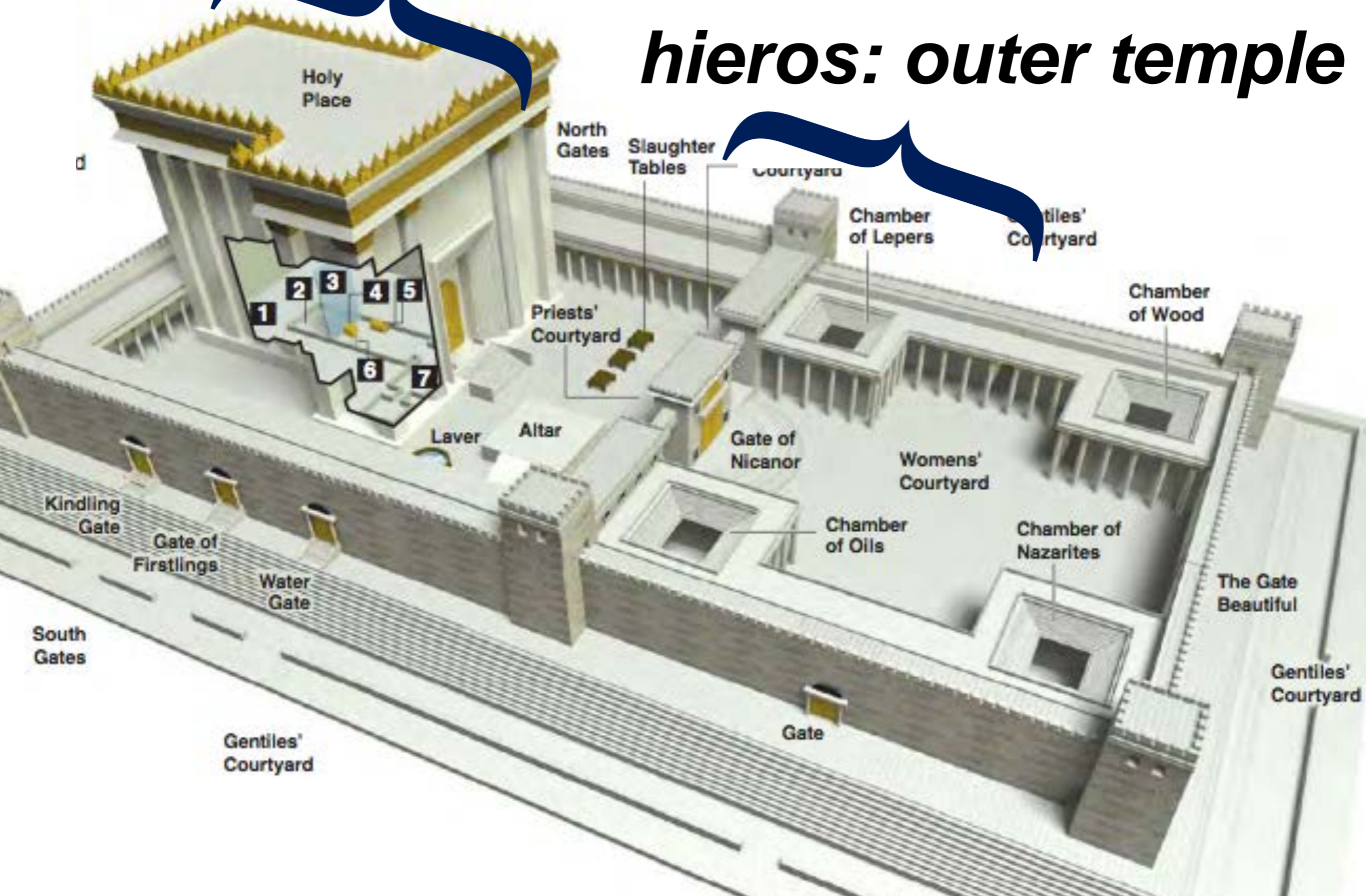
1 Corinthians 6:19, “Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?”

***naos*; only the inner sanctum, the holiest, most sanctified location where the *Shekinah* dwelt.**

***hierón*; includes not only the building, but the external grounds and courtyards**

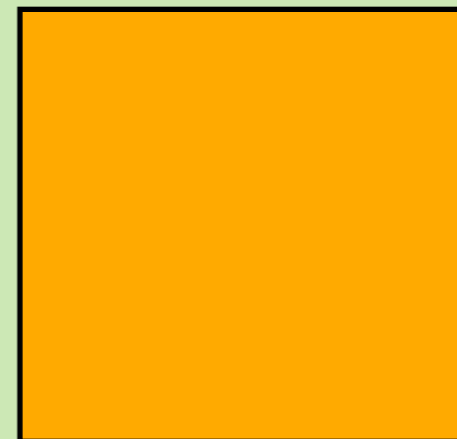
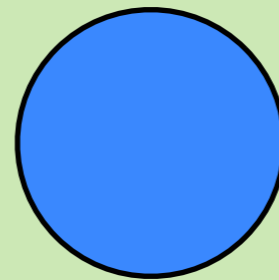
naos: Holy of holies

hieros: outer temple

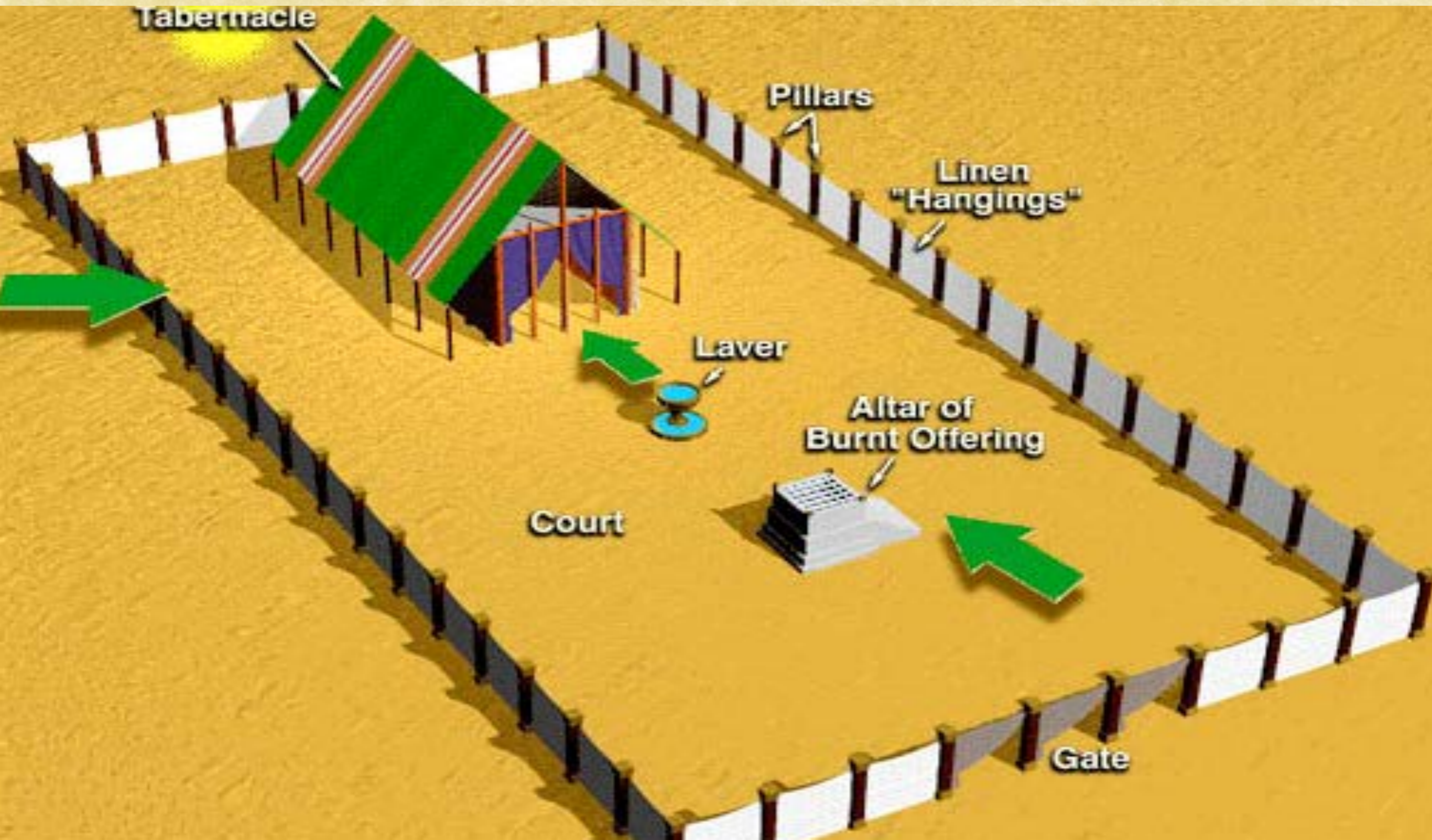


naos:
Holy of Holies

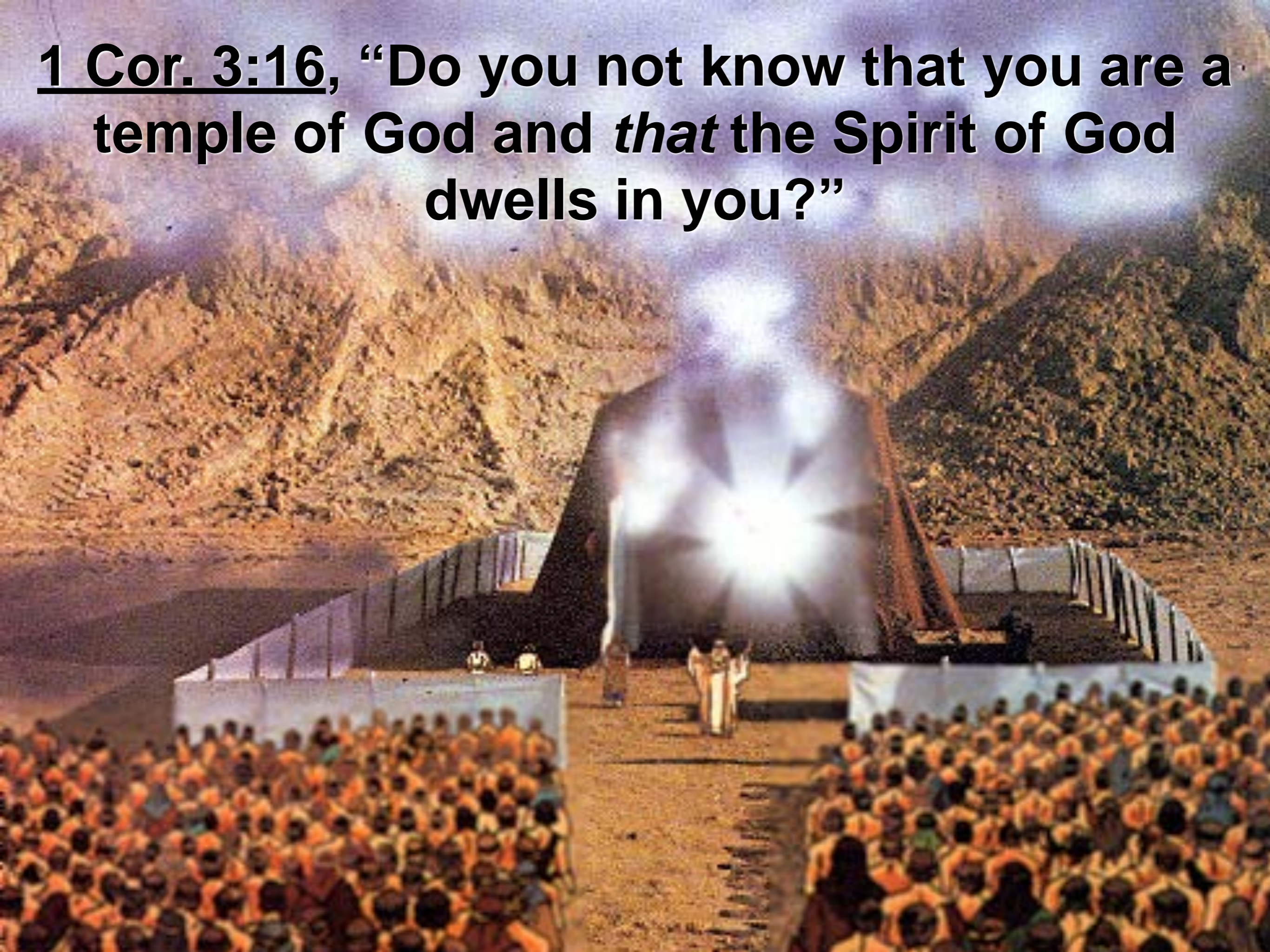
hieros:
outer temple



ἱερόν *hieron*;
includes not only the building, but the
external grounds and courtyards.



1 Cor. 3:16, “Do you not know that you are a temple of God and *that* the Spirit of God dwells in you?”



1 Cor 6:19, “Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?”

Argument Against Demon Possession of a Christian

Major Premise: Every believer is a set apart sanctuary (by the Holy Spirit) for the indwelling Jesus Christ.

Minor Premise: Unsanctified creatures (including demons) cannot enter into this kind of set apart sanctuary.

CONCLUSION: Demons cannot enter into the set apart sanctuaries of the believer's body.

1 John 4:4, “Greater is He that is in you, than he that is in the world.”

Matt. 12:28, “But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

Matt. 12:29, “Or how can anyone enter the strong man’s house and carry off his property, unless he first binds the strong *man*? And then he will plunder his house.”

Matt. 12:43, “Now when the unclean spirit goes out of a man, it passes through waterless places seeking rest, and does not find *it*.

Matt. 12:44, “Then it says, ‘I will return to my house from which I came’; and when it comes, it finds *it* unoccupied, swept, and put in order.”

Matt. 12:45, “Then it goes and takes along with it seven other spirits more wicked than itself, and they go in and live there; and the last state of that man becomes worse than the first. That is the way it will also be with this evil generation.”

**1 John 4:4, “Greater is He that is in you,
than he that is in the world.”**

John 17:15, “I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one.”

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ἐκ *ek* “severance or separation”

The preposition ἐκ here is used to indicate severance or separation. Whatever else our Lord intended, this would exclude the invasion of a believer's body by unholy demons. Since we know the Father has heard and is fulfilling Christ's request, this must at least include protection of all believers, obedient and disobedient, from demon possession.

1 John 5:18, “We know that whoever is born of God does not sin; but he who has been born of God keeps himself, and the wicked one does not touch him.

1 John 5:19, “We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies *under the sway of the wicked one.*”

2 Thess. 3:3, “the Lord is faithful, and He will strengthen and protect you from the evil one.”

2 Peter 1:3, “as His divine power has given to us all things that *pertain* to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue,

2 Peter 1:4, “by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption *that is* in the world through lust.”

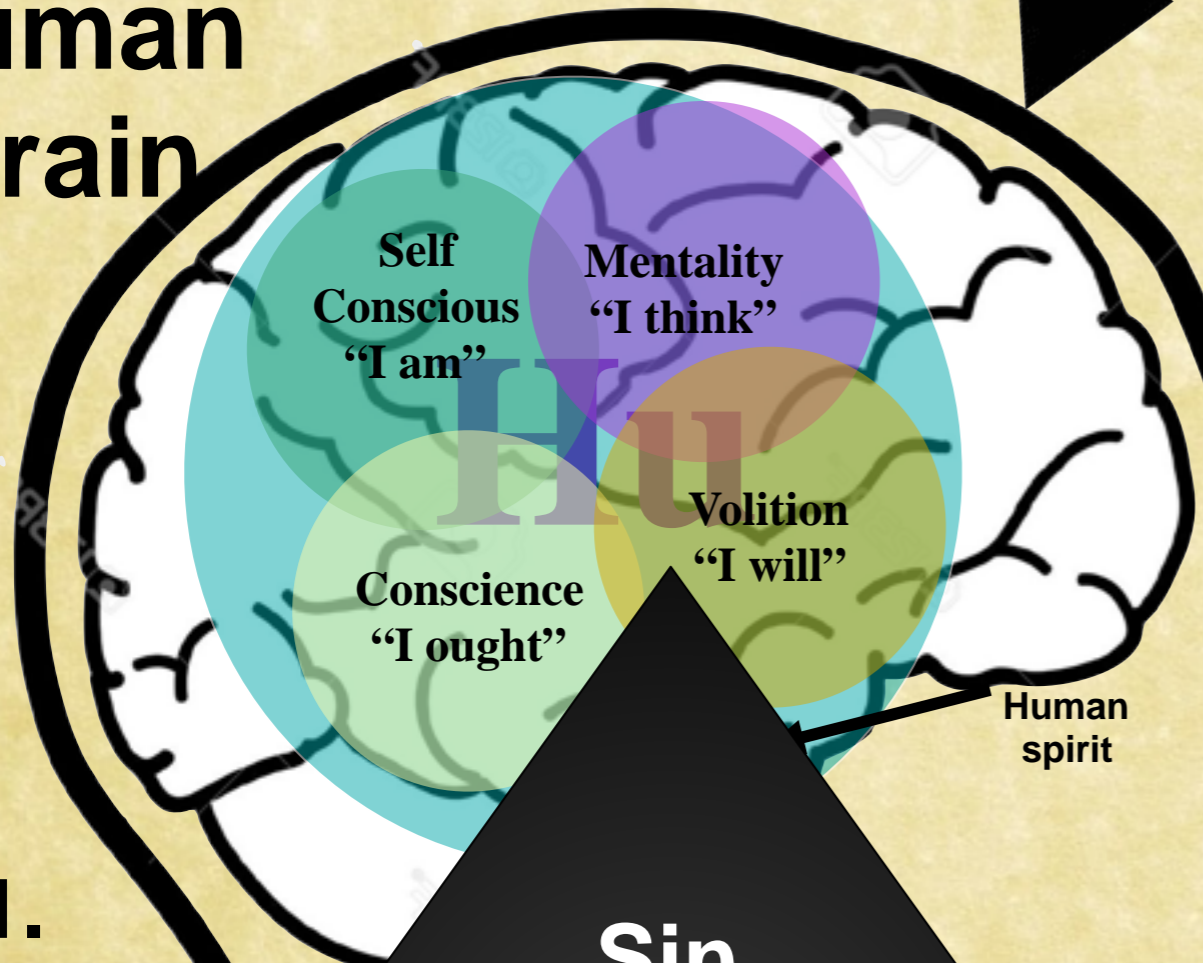
**Can music deliver a person from demon
oppression?**

1 Sam. 16:16, “Let our master now command your servants, who are before you, to seek out a man who is a skillful player on the harp. And it shall be that he will play it with his hand when the distressing spirit from God is upon you, and you shall be well.”

1 Sam. 16:23, “And so it was, whenever the spirit from God was upon Saul, that David would take a harp and play it with his hand. Then Saul would become refreshed and well, and the distressing spirit would depart from him.”

עַל־2 *al-2* upon, over, above

Human Brain



1. Negative volition gives sin nature control

Sin Nature/ The Flesh

2. Sin nature creates emotional control

3. Demon oppression increases sin fragmentation



4. Music provides temporary relief through structure and meaning



Music Therapy

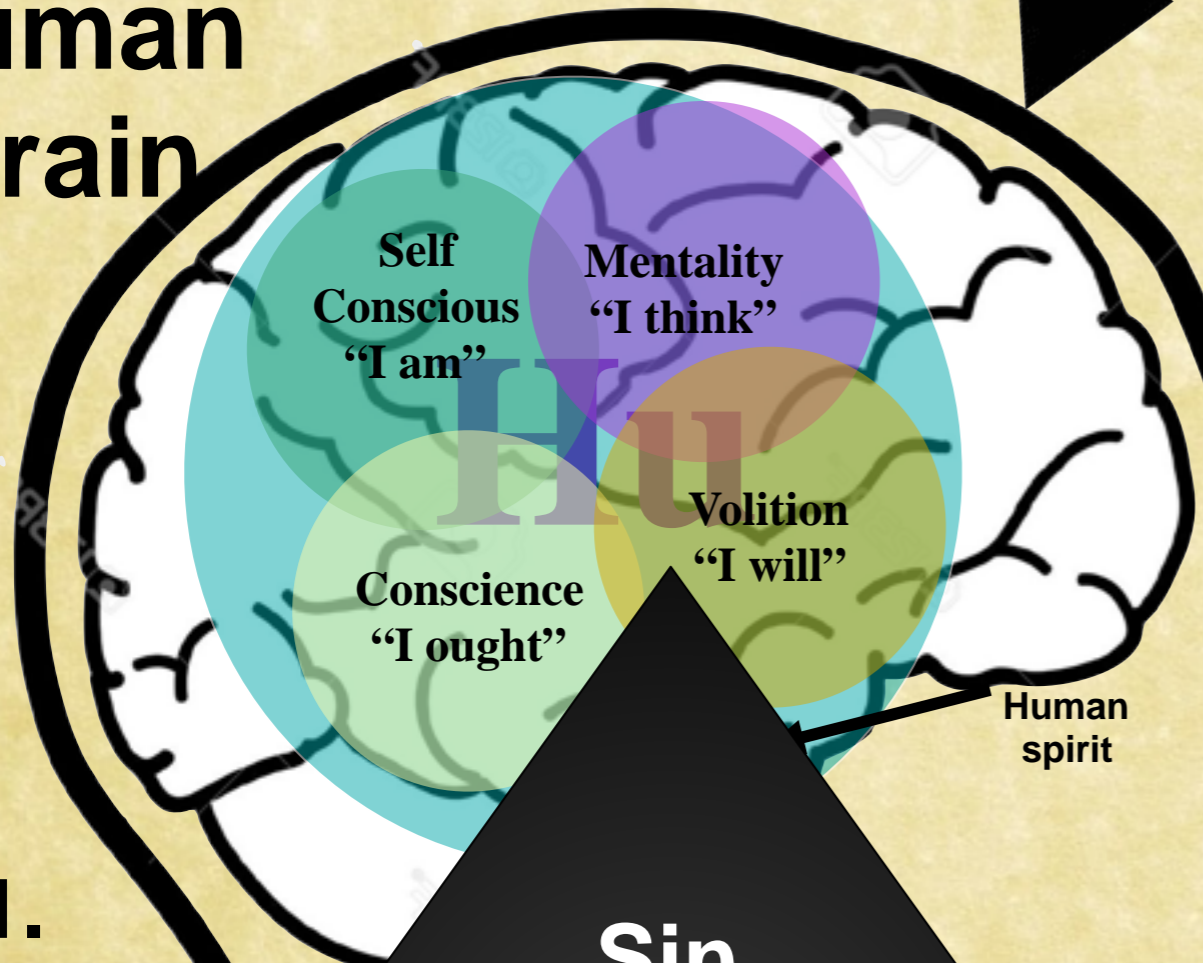
- 1. A recent branch of psychology has developed a field called music therapy. The American Music Therapy Association defines Music Therapy as**

“the clinical and evidence-based use of music interventions to accomplish individualized goals within a therapeutic relationship by a credentialed professional who has completed an approved music therapy program.”

2. Something about music works with patients with dementia and other emotional problems. No scientific data as of yet. There are results, but not explained. Not well funded or researched.

3. One factor may be that it helps an emotionally fragmented mind organize itself and settle down for a temporary period.

Human Brain



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