

DO WE NEED DELIVERANCE OF THE SOUL AFTER REGENERATION OF THE SPIRIT? Dr.Gerrit van Veuren

When Jesus told His disciples to heal the sick and cast out demons, I believe He intended them to do just that – heal the sick and cast out demons! However, in common with most of my contemporaries who were nurtured and reared in the latter half of the previous century, I was taught nothing about the healing and deliverance ministry.

Some fifteen years ago my ministry took a turn when I was confronted with a demon-possessed woman who I could not help. I knew she was sick and in bondage, but I was unable to deliver her from the demonic strongholds in her life. Later I realised that there were actually many such cases before her, but I was neither capable to recognise nor equipped to handle the situations. I felt so inadequate and realised the need for deliverance ministry. I enrolled for postgraduate studies in psychology and counselling. I researched everything I could lay my hands on about spiritual warfare, demonization, deliverance and counselling. I even crossed conventional borders to study the occult and other religions.

However one thing transpired; I discovered that the body of Christ found it difficult to accept that our Lord intended to minister beyond conversion, to heal the deep hidden things from the past that are harboured in our soul. I believe that Satan hides the truth of deliverance ministry from pastors and ministers to keep believers in sickness and poverty. However God knows that only after believers have been delivered, can they be truly free to serve Him in fullness and worship Him in truth and in spirit. This was when I knew what my major calling in life from then on was to be; a ministry of deliverance.

Is the ministry of deliverance something that only came to the fore in the twentieth century? No. Throughout the centuries, there have been many well-documented accounts of the demonised being set free in the Name of Jesus. In more recent times we have read this of godly people like Smith Wigglesworth, Mary Woodworth-Etter, John G. Lake and Tom Hesmellach just to name but a few. Let me just quote an example from the old church father Tertullian from ca 200AD: “We have the case of this woman – the Lord Himself is witness – who went to the theatre, and came back possessed. In the exorcism accordingly, when the unclean creature was upbraided with having dared to attack a believer, the evil spirit firmly replied, *And in truth I did it most righteously, for I found her in my domain.*”

We have in obedience to the voice of the Lord, established counselling rooms where deliverance and healing are ministered on a daily basis to all those in pain, fear, bondage, sickness and sin. We have trained many pastors and cell leaders for deliverance ministry and have received many reports of people being set free with astounding results. However, we still find some pastors who do not believe in such a ministry and who react adversely. In our own ministry we have moved with holy boldness to minister and pray for physically and spiritually sick people and the Holy Spirit has healed and set them free true to the promises in God’s Word.

It seems that believers can, only after they themselves have been delivered, know, hear and understand what the real spiritual needs of the people around them are. Furthermore, since healing and deliverance are

done in the Name of Jesus, our total ministry becomes dependent upon the leading, guiding and empowering of the Holy Spirit. What a joy it is in deliverance ministry to be an onlooker as God heals and sets the captive free. Therefore we need to rejoice in the Lord, let there be a fresh meeting in the presence and power of Him and allow Him to do His work of deliverance and inner healing. Our participation in the encounter must primarily be to connect the persons with Jesus Christ and to participate with Him in enabling them to recognize and eliminate the strongholds and bondages in their lives so that they can live the life the Lord has given them in love.

This article has thus arisen:

- From our own personal encounters with evil.
- From our ministry to help set free the captives of Luke 4.
- From the absence in the teaching of professors at seminaries that the evil supernatural does exist.
- From the Biblical perspective of God's salvation history that is set in the context of warfare between the kingdom of light and the kingdom of darkness.
- From the perspective that Jesus called His church to resist the evil forces, not to give them a stronghold, never to compromise with the devil, nor live for ourselves but to live for God, for the lost and for the healing of the bruised among us.
- From the perspective of believers who are in total ignorance of the fact that Jesus has already obtained victory for us. We now only need to accept it in faith in order to reign successfully over the enemy and his forces of darkness. Rom. 5:17.
- From the perspective that we as believers were commissioned by Christ Himself to go out and heal the broken-hearted and set the captives free.
- From a prayer that Jesus Christ will operate through His church, the true believers, and let them: *"Preach the gospel to the poor, proclaim release to the captives, recovery of sight to the blind, heal the broken-hearted, set free those who are downtrodden, proclaim the favourable year of the Lord."* Luke 4:18.

By its very nature, this article might seem a bit controversial, especially to those who haven't had the privilege to either help someone to accept the Lord as Saviour or those who haven't had the privilege to pray for someone who was in bondage and in need of deliverance. Shalom Ministries, where I am the presiding pastor, is committed to power encounter as a valid dimension of evangelism and Christian living. In the same way we are committed to the deliverance ministry as the context of the life of the church and its mission. The past couple of years (1995 - 2017) Shalom Ministries have run more than thirty mission stations internationally and at least eleven locally where the ministry of deliverance forms an integral part of the daily outreach, teaching and preaching of the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

THE PROBLEMS AROUND DEMONOLOGY AND DELIVERANCE

Man's struggle with invisible evil forces forms part of the cultural history of every nation on earth. In biblical times the existence of the devil and evil spirits, which every true believer apparently had to battle against, were acknowledged as a reality. The church had no problem to obey its commission to heal the sick and demonised believers. Later all kinds of superstition and witchcraft occurred that beguiled the believers as well as their spiritual leaders. The thirteenth century was especially typified as the

devil period when witches were burned on stakes and the Pope ecclesiological sanctioned it.

With the era of Enlightenment (17th century), reason triumphed over every form of superstition and some even rejected the belief in evil spirits. Bultmann asked for the demythologisation of the Bible, as men don't need demons and Satan or the evil supernatural for that matter. Bultmann reasoned that the Sadducees did not believe in demons at all so why should the theologians and the church do?

Influenced by the scientific ideal of the 19th century, the school of psychology interpreted all faith in God and belief in devils as human projections and man's need for a father figure and his fear for the so-called threatening evil forces.

However in the 20th century events have once again led people to start talking more about the devil and evil spirits. The gruesome events that happened during the two world wars were described as demonic. Subsequently modern means of transport made the world a smaller place and the church was also gradually introduced to the occult and was forced to assume a position. With the coming of the post modernistic man, there followed a revival of spiritism and Satanism in our country. Pastors encountered demonization and therefore had to turn to exorcism.

The so-called rational and scientific viewpoint, which dismissed all natural phenomena as medieval and archaic, is in reality not a sign of expanded and more sober thinking. Instead it is a materialistic and mechanistic narrowing of reality. We dare not reject the biblical teaching about Satan and demons just because superstition, wrong ideas and practices surrounded this topic in the past.

No one can speak of Christ and His work of salvation or of man and his struggle against evil and sin, without acknowledging to the devil and his demons. The Bible does not endeavour to prove the existence of Satan and evil spirits but accepts the sinful and hostile reality of these beings without any ado. **The fact is that one cannot believe in the truth of the Bible without acknowledging the existence of the devil and his demons.** The coming of Christ to this world, His work of reconciliation and the message of the Bible would be senseless if there were no Satan and evil forces from which man has to be delivered. The Bible expressly teaches in 1 John 3:8, that Jesus came to break the power of the devil. The Bible teaches that believers are admonished to take a stand against the devil and overcome him through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

THE THEOLOGICAL FOUNDATION OF DEMONIC ATTACKS ON BELIEVERS

According to Isaiah 14, Ezekiel 28 and John 8 it seems that in the life of Satan, there was a time when he left the truth and became evil at heart. He was thrown out of heaven because of his rebellion against God, but we find his abode when Jesus called him in John 12:31, 14:30 and 16:11 the "*ruler of this world.*" Ephesian 2:2 call him "*the prince of the power of the air.*" That he had big powers as the prince of the air is clearly indicated in Job 1 where he commanded the lightning as well as in Mark 4 when Jesus rebuked the storm as if the elements were at the beck and call of Satan. Even when Satan tempted Jesus in the wilderness he showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and said in Luke 4: "*All this authority I will give You, and their glory;*

for this has been delivered to me, and I will give it to whomever I wish. Therefore, if You will worship before me, all will be Yours.”

That Satan is the ruler of this world is confirmed in 1 John 5:19, *“We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one.”*

To really understand the devil and his demonic attacks on believers we only need to look at the very meaning of his different names or references made to him, as this will so aptly define and depict his **totally evil** character.

The Hebrew word for **Satan** literally means *adversary*. Neh. 22:32; 1 Sam. 29:4; Job 1:6-12; Zech. 3:1-2;

Satan is also known as the *tempter, deceiver and seducer*. Matt. 4:10; Acts 5:3; 2 Cor. 11:14; Rev. 12:9.

The Greek word for **devil** literally means *accuser, speaker of evil, destroyer and the verb form means to accuse*. Jesus gives us Satan’s job description in John 10:10, *“The thief comes only in order to steal, kill and destroy.”*

Beelzebub means *god of the flies* and **Belial** means *evildoer*.

Other descriptive names for him are: **enemy** - Matt. 13:39; **murderer** of people - John 8:44; the **Evil One** - Matt. 6:13; **prince of the world** - John 12:31; **god of this world** - 2 Cor. 4:4; **the old snake** - Rev. 12:9; **the great dragon** - Rev. 12:9; **the accuser of the brethren** - Rev. 12:10; **one who poses as an angel of the light** - 2 Cor. 11:14; the **father of liars** - John 8:44; **one who appears as a roaring lion** - 1 Pet. 5:8.

The references to **demons** in the Bible are numerous and tell us that they are fallen angels who, together with Satan, **rebelled against God**. These fallen angels are also called demons, evil spirits, unclean spirits and the messengers of Satan. Although there is only one Satan, there must be very large numbers of demons and Satan can therefore attack numerous people simultaneously at different places.

The devil and his demons are also revealed to man in a more direct and more personal way. This takes place when the devil, via his demons, works in such a way in a person’s life that this active evil force can be discerned more readily by spirit-filled believers. This is known as **demonising**. This is when Satan controls a person to such an extent that he becomes in fact demonic. This usually takes place when a person identifies himself with the devil or with evil things with the aim of organizing his life accordingly. However it can also take place when Satan’s grasp on the person’s life results in that person showing psychological deviations and at times insanity, which is a pathological condition of uncontrolled anger, blabbering and foaming around the mouth. This person is mentally deranged because of the presence of demons in his life. The Bible translators refer to this condition as **demon possession**. We like to put two more meanings to it, i.e. **demon oppression** and **demon obsession**.

People are considered demonised when they have gone so far in the way of sin that they and their works are identified with evil itself. It is in other words, a very serious state of sin. Not only does such a person sin like any other sinner, but also is sin so prominent in his life that Satan is recognised in him.

The gravity of demon possession can assume varying degrees.

At worst a victim’s personality is so overpowered, supplanted and disturbed by demonic forces that a strange person and power is revealed in him. This

person is completely controlled by Satan and the following are examples of his servitude to evil: The victims have irresistible desires to commit immoral deeds, use drugs, exploit the neighbour for their own benefit, yield to any sinful or destructive impulse, make money through any illegal or social damaging ways, etc. We cannot, in fact, equate each of these irresistible urges with a specific demon that has taken up his abode in a person's life. However, it is quite appropriate to speak of a demon of infirmity, a demon of money, a demon of immorality, a demon of addiction, a demon of power, a demon of pride and haughtiness, a demon of destruction, a demon of control and manipulation, etc.

Whether one believes in the devil or not, all these things happen when one identifies himself with evil things and gives them top priority. One may even go so far as to say that the worship of idols, such as those found in primitive societies, is in no way more destructive and more evil than the sin manifesting in more so-called civilised circles.

However, it can also only be a foothold that Satan obtained in the victim's life and he is put in bondage and is thus unable to do what he really should do. A believer in bondage will not be able to serve God victoriously. The initial foothold gives Satan a certain amount of control and this person experiences a demonic bondage in his life. Whether we speak about obsession, oppression, possession or bondage, one thing is clear, something in the inner person is wrong for this person acts as if an outer force controls him. If this abnormality is inside a person, then the forces that are causing the problem or trouble **must also be inside the person.**

How severe or how mild the presence of Satan in believers and unbelievers might be, deliverance in the Name of Jesus Christ will set them free. The Bible uses the word **healing** for cases in all categories as far as deliverance is concerned. This includes mental and physical healing. Thus we read about healing where the term for demon possession does not occur. Luke 6:18; 13:11-13; Acts 5:16; 10:38. However, we also read of healing in cases where demon possession is mentioned. Matt. 12:22; 15:22; Luke 8:36. Demonising is about a power, a hold, an influence or a bondage, which the devil has in a person's life. Consequently it is to get the evil power out of a person's life that we should understand the notion of **casting out, exorcism or deliverance.**

We need to ask the question: **Can believers really be demonised?**

Many believers are trying their best to walk as children of the light. As they fail to produce the fruit of that light, they too often fall into strife, disillusionment and condemnation, because they are blindsided and driven from deep within by preset strongholds and bondages of the enemy in their lives. That is why Scripture warns believers not to "*Fall into the same condemnation as the devil*" or "*Fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.*" 1 Tim. 3:6-7. The Bible also tells us of believers who have "*Turned aside after Satan.*" 1 Tim. 5:15.

The following symptoms may indicate demonising in the lives of believers:

Physical symptoms such as super natural power – Mark 5:2-4; blindness, deafness and dumbness – Mark 9:17, 25; foaming at the mouth – Mark 9:18; convulsions, gnashing of the teeth, falling and rolling on the ground, etc.

Psychological symptoms such as self-infliction of injury – Mark 5:5; suicidal tendencies - Mark 9:22; screaming Mark 1:22; tearing off clothes, supernatural knowledge, split personality – Mark 1:34, etc.

Religious symptoms such as a victim's voice confessing correctly who Christ is and what His apostles are doing – Mark 3:11; unclean spirits – Luke 4:33; resistance to the Lord and His gospel – Luke 4:34; etc.

The apostle Peter wrote to warn believers of the terrible danger they faced as a result of Satan's attacks. He said if they do not learn how to "*Resist him firm in their faith,*" they would be "*Devoured by the devil.*" 1 Pet. 5:8-9. These are strong words.

The apostle Paul points out that the following are still found in the lives of some believers: Hatred, jealousy, fear, uncleanness, adultery and similar matters. Eph. 4:31; James 1:19-21; 1 Pet. 2:1, 16. Some might say that these are the works of the flesh and that there is no demonic activity, but that would be biblically incorrect. All anti-God characteristics revealed through the flesh, come from the devil, 1 John 3:8. To try and say that the sinful nature is under the blood of Christ and therefore not accessible to demonic influence is simply not biblically substantiated. Nowhere does the Bible teach that the purification or annihilation of our sinful nature takes place through the blood of Christ. What it does teach is the mortification thereof. We are also admonished to consider this nature as crucified and dead (Rom. 6:11, 7:15-18) and only as far as that happens, does it give **no entrance** for evil. The fact remains that the Bible talks about the believer's struggle with Satan, and against the evil forces. Eph. 6:11-12; Heb. 12:4. The texts cited thus speak of the danger that the devil poses to believers. Luke 22:31; 1 Cor. 10:21-22; 2 Cor. 2:10; 1 Tim. 3:6-7; 2 Tim. 2:25-26; 1 Pet. 5:8.

Many believers have rightly celebrated salvation as a free gift, but have not understood that they have to grow up in it (1 Pet. 2:2; Eph. 3:14-19) nor that they are to work it out with fear and trembling. Phil. 2:12. They have celebrated that by "*One offering He has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified,*" (Heb. 10:14) without understanding sanctification as a process of deliverance.

Many believers have tried to forget what **lies behind** by ignoring the past rather than by letting the Holy Spirit search the innermost parts of their hearts and lead them to **deliverance**. Ps. 139:23-24. They need to allow Jesus to set them free from those deeply ingrained attitudes and ways of their childhood, i.e. a wrong paradigm and let Him give them inner healing. Remember Jesus knew all along that undelivered believers might have a speech that is as smooth as butter while at the same time their hearts are at war. Ps. 55:21.

In the case of unbelievers who have not yet experienced the operation of the Holy Spirit, there can in fact be evil strongholds or bondages in their lives whereby everything they do is demonic or demonically influenced. However, the demonic bondage may only affect a part of their lives. In the same way believers may have bondages in their personalities. However, any form of demonization in the lives of believers is an exception, and is absolutely contrary to the life, which such believers have in Christ. **These believers should not and cannot rest until they are delivered from all demonic bondage and strongholds.**

There is no guarantee that demons cannot enter a person just because he is born again. Our protection against evil onslaughts does not reside in a one-time experience, **but in a living relationship with the Lord**. For this reason believers should always walk in the Spirit, (Gal. 5:15, 25) that is, they should remain in fellowship with God. Those who continue in a loving relationship with God do not have to fear any evil force; they will experience that in Jesus Christ they are more than conquerors.

CONTEXTUALISING DEMONOLOGY AND DELIVERANCE IN THE CHURCH

God has called us to teach, preach and practice deliverance together with spiritual warfare as a way of life. We are to root our teachings in reverent reflection mainly upon **Scripture but also without** disregarding **church history** and valid **experiences**. Pastors are called not to indulge in dogmatic theology (this was originally written by monks in seclusion without having any contact with the brokenness of the world or the people in spiritual captivity) on the one hand, or in sensationalism (there is a demon behind every bush and in every believer) on the other. Pastors also need to remember that deliverance and spiritual warfare, our fight against the evil supernaturalism, rest in the fact of what Jesus Christ has already obtained for us on the cross at Calvary and in our acceptance of this great truth. Heb. 4. The battle is not ours; it is the Lord's. He is our Deliverer.

However, right here at the beginning of the twenty first century, the church seems to have no idea to what extent the onslaught of the evil supernatural might be on the lives of believers. Covered under the holy shroud of religion, Satan through the New Age Movement has very subtly moved right into our homes, schools, churches and especially the lives of our children through books, films, toys, games, cartoons and school programmes where occult practices are masqueraded as innocent child development programmes. We believe that many of the increasing afflictions that children seem to be suffering from today in the area of hyperactivity and deficient attentiveness may have a root in witchcraft coming through the New Age Movement and its teachings. Witchcraft attacks the mind especially for it is a manipulating spirit and it seeks to manipulate us into compromise and doing what is wrong in the eyes of the Lord. This New Age Movement feasts on millions of people who are desperately searching for spiritual reality and these people don't mind where it comes from as long as it is **real**.

These believers are more often than not sick to death of the dry and empty ritual, the unspeakable hypocrisy and the suffocating legalism that characterizes so many of our churches today. Something deep within them yearns to be filled with the presence of a spirit, and the New Agers are there to fill this void. No wonder David Icke, a twenty first century New Ager, in his book "The Robots' Rebellion" proclaimed in audaciousness that the post modernistic man has no need for any saviours, be it Mohammed, Buddha or Jesus, for man is his own god and needs no help at all. Man can do anything he has put his mind to.

This is the area where Satan is alive and active. He gives these people a demi-god, himself, a counterfeit god, a god more to their own liking and understanding, a god who would just as soon be called The Force, a god who promises them unlimited knowledge, power, and even the ultimate fulfilment of personal divinity. Believers are being flooded with free material from channelers, psychic healers, gurus, astrologers, etc. Soon some become mesmerized by it, leave their faith in Christ and cling to pyramids, crystals, goddess-worship, meditation and guided imagery. Other New Agers are into the political aspects of globalism, saving the environment, expanding human potential, organizing the woman's lib movement and establishing a gay movement in churches or even any combination of the above.

The post modernistic man sees himself as a superior being and looks down upon a first century Bible, let alone archaic church dogma. Nowadays hardly anyone believes in the virgin birth of Jesus, sin and the basic sin-nature of man, Satan, the exclusive deity of Christ, the resurrection of Christ, the second coming of Christ, heaven or hell as a future destination or anything

that smacks of fundamentalism. These people even call themselves Christians and proclaim that whatever they decide is right for them, is what's right, as long as they don't get narrow minded and exclusive about it. Amongst these are so-called Christian professors at Christian seminaries in our day. They believe in reincarnation, have out-of-body experiences, practice crossing over, experience ESP, etc. The frightening part of all this is that we as true believers know about this and choose to ignore and keep quiet about it. Instead of standing up, some of these true believers even shoot down and come against all those who practice deliverance as a kingdom of God principle. These people are blind to the fact that they are raising a new generation for the kingdom of Satan. Believers need to be delivered and the church needs to take a stand against this issue if we still want to be relevant in our day amongst our communities.

There is an ongoing battle for the possession of the families and friends of believers. Without discernment into the spiritual realm, believers will never grow to maturity or a life of victory and confusion will reign over the pulpits and the churches. Against this, God is raising up a church whose spiritual eyes have been opened and where the spirit of discernment can work. This true church is becoming aware of the manoeuvres, manipulations, bondages and deceptions that occur in the spirit world, which come from the kingdom of darkness and affect the lives of millions of believers.

Everything we read in the New Testament about the devil and demons has to be understood in the context of Christ's dominion over all evil forces. The devil and his evil forces already reign over sinful humanity. 1 John 5:19. Those believers and churches that do not believe in Satan and his evil forces are no threat to him. Encountering Christ and His true believers are however another cup of tea to him. We see how Satan, through the Jewish and Roman authorities, resisted Christ's and the first disciples' healing and deliverance ministry. They were also challenged in Scripture by numerous demoniacs and eventually Christ was crucified on the cross although this did not imply defeat, but victory. This victory was not for Himself but for every believer. It is we as true believers who can become more than conquerors in Christ. The church is revealed in Scripture not only as the people of God and the body of Christ, but also as part of God's warrior kingdom in an ongoing conflict with eternal evil (the flesh), social evil (the world), and supernatural evil (the evil spirit world). We will later call this a multidimensional sin war.

In this process, Jesus exposed Satan, made a spectacle of Him as the enemy of his own Creator and Sustainer. Thereby the eternal judgement of the devil and his demons were sealed. Col. 2:13-15. However, we as believers also know the last chapters of the Bible tell us that the devil and his demons together with all ungodly people will be cast into perdition and hell. This will mean the end of the devil and his demons.

Paul gave a pearl of counsel and wisdom for us in 2 Timothy 2:22, *"Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart."*

Purity of heart is a major protection against the New Age Movement and its witchcraft. When our hearts are pure, God will ensure that we are not lead into deception. However, the anointing of the Holy Spirit breaks the yoke of witchcraft attacks and Jeremiah 30:8 becomes a living reality; *"For it shall come to pass in that day, says the Lord of hosts, that I will break his yoke from your neck and will burst your bonds."* True believers experience this reality by taking command in the Name of Jesus and deliver any such victim from the evil spirit of witchcraft.

The casting out of demons and the breaking of demonic strongholds and bondages, are clearly described in the Bible. On occasion when a demon left a victim, he screamed through the person, made him convulse and caused him to fall to the ground as if dead. Mark 9:26. However it can also happen that demons leave a victim without any visible or audible manifestations. After he is delivered the victim is free and is as normal as anybody else. Matt. 9:32-33; Luke 8:35.

Jesus Christ has given authority and power to His disciples and to believers to drive out demons.

Besides proclaiming the gospel and healing the sick, they also had to cast out demons, i.e. deliver the people who were in bondage. This took place from the time of the apostles throughout the history of the church until today. The direction of the Holy Spirit and the command of Jesus Himself has never been cancelled or changed. In the words of Mark 16:17, *“And these signs will follow those who believe: In My Name they will cast out demons, they will...”* And then we read in verse 20, *“And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the Word through the accompanying signs.”*

We need to answer the following question: “Can demonization be healed by scientific means, i.e. **can demons be exorcised by means of psychiatric treatment?** The answer is simple: No means of scientific healing can expel demons. The patient needs Christian counselling and deliverance. With the assistance of a Christian counsellor, he will be helped in the identification of the sins or events (such as rape or molestation), which may possibly have led him to be demonised. He will also be helped to recognise the fact that he is plagued by demons and has to be delivered from them. During his counselling session, he will then be encouraged to confess and break free from these sins, learn to resist the devil, forgive those who have harmed him and vice versa, and yield to Christ as his Lord and Saviour. Only now will he be free.

True deliverance can only follow the exorcism of demons when a person dedicates himself to the Lord and when the Holy Spirit controls this person’s entire life. **Our lifestyle of freedom in Christ proclaims the fact of our true deliverance.** Only then do we see the promise of John 8:36 come into operation: *“Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.”*

IS AN EMPIRICAL APPROACH REALLY NECESSARY?

This article was never written to be a theological treatise, but rather to be a practical guide on the ministry of deliverance. Although I am a trained theologian, I did not learn the work I am doing in any one of the several theological seminaries I attended. This is also not to be understood as the last word on the subject matter. What follows is a series of systematic teachings stemming from cases I had to handle together with my own studies on deliverance ministry and the lives of pastors who were involved with it, men like Tienie Cronje, Ed Murphy, Win Worley, Ed Silvosio and others. They, through their fruitful ministry, have inspired me to write a handbook on this matter. I recorded all the cases I handled in the past ten years (more than 20 000) with conclusions and deductions drawn from Scripture and experience. That is why I call this ministry Word Therapy in that it means it is the power of God’s Word through the Holy Spirit that delivers, sets free and gives inner healing.

My own initial experience in the church was that of fear whenever something out of the ordinary happened or when demons manifested. I never met a believer who knew his birthright as a child of God and who could take

offensive action against the enemy. Before rejecting the material as too controversial, try it and prove it as I have. Search the Scriptures, and then launch out in faith and God Himself will prove His Word.

When Scripture is conformed to experience, we have reality in action. All the precious theological and legalistic theories are worthless if they do not work in practice. Those who so feverishly oppose deliverance ministry, ignore the influence of the evil supernatural forces, and thereby teach mere speculation and unbelief. One thing the reader must realise is that the whole focus is on the **Deliverer**, the Lord Jesus Christ Himself. He alone is worthy to receive honour, glory and praise. I myself made it a life principle when we thank the Lord for the deliverance He has just brought to a believer, never to close in prayer **without** giving Him all the honour and glory: ***“Lord, this is not the work of man, but this is the work of Your Holy Spirit.”***

Recently my son phoned me to report back on a case that he asked my advice on some time ago. She was a young woman who was diabetic and suffered from low blood pressure. He was ecstatic and just kept on repeating: “Praise the Lord, glory to God.” When he first asked my advice about how to counsel this lady, I told him that I sense there were bloodline curses present and that he must minister unto her in that area. He did so and prayed for deliverance. His call on that Monday was to tell me that she had just received the results of her blood tests etc. and that the doctor gave her a clean bill of health. She also witnessed that her energy levels were normal, that she felt on top of the world and that she was totally healed. What a testimony! Remember, he never prayed for her healing but only broke the bloodline curses in her life. That testimony is a fine definition and example of deliverance and healing.

The Scripture-versus-experience issue is unfortunate, unbiblical and illogical. Never in Scripture are the two held to be mutually exclusive. They are always seen as the two sides of the same coin. God’s written revelation is the Bible. That written revelation is not given in an abstract form, however. It is given in a historical form as God makes Himself known to His people and to the world in the context of human experience. **God must first be experienced before He can be understood.**

That is why regeneration and exorcism precedes the baptism of the Spirit, the baptism of the believer, the fruit of the Spirit and servant hood. We need to realize that **God’s truth is not primarily discovered by the human intellect**, the cognitive, then we would have un-born-again, unsaved assembly members. However, God’s truth is discovered, **by the human heart as revealed to our spirit by the Holy Spirit**, which means regeneration of the spirit and this refers to a definite experience with the Holy Spirit. Thus if we had to make the choice of being taught by a brilliant, highly trained, but unsaved theologian, or a semi-literate but Spirit-filled believer, we would probably choose the believer. **While he may not be able to define or explain God theologically, he will be able to lead us to God experientially. And that is the gospel of Jesus Christ in its fullest meaning.**

Therefore, correct biblical interpretation is that interpretation which is most consistent with experience. Theology, which is contradicted by experience, or at the least is brought into question, is theology that needs to be re-examined. To declare that theology must be maintained even if it is challenged by on-going experience is legalism, pharisaism, dogmatism and evidence of subtle arrogance. **To continue with theology that hurts already hurting people is sin.**

We cannot sacrifice people on the altar of theological presuppositions. We must never be afraid to test our experiences against Scripture for if our experiences are valid, we will find that Scripture supports it much more than we can ever imagine. Scripture will also cause us to restate our experiences and not to go to extremes. The result will be a newly formulated theology more consistent with both Scripture and experience, which will glorify God and extend His kingdom. We thus practice deliverance on believers and non-believers who are demon possessed, demon oppressed, demonised, with demonic strongholds and who are in bondage.

One thing is absolutely certain: Our theology of the spirit world must fit and address the reality of contemporary human anguish. Particularly for us in South Africa, where materialism is the religion of many, and where occultism, Satanism and the New Age Movement flourish, demonology without deliverance is out. With a high crime rate, AIDS, sexual abuse, sexual perversion, child abuse and satanic ritual abuse of children no longer a secret, but almost a national epidemic, status quo counselling without deliverance will no longer do.

Demons flow wherever you find abuse and unrighteousness. This includes any occult practices, Satanism, spiritism, magic, sorcery, witchcraft, immorality, child and woman abuse, the New Age Movement as well as all other anti-Christian movements and beliefs. The church will find it difficult to bring salvation and healing to the survivors of such evil if it maintains its present status quo, unworkable theology on demonology. This is true for both salvation and sanctification. South African theologians also need to remember that Hinduism and Islam are still the most powerful competitors of Christianity in our country, with the traditional African religions close behind. Demonic activity is rampant in all three of the abovementioned religions.

Lest I should be accused of a lack of balance in my overall approach to the Christian ministry, let me state clearly that deliverance is only one phase of the message of the gospel and that is why I spent so much time on rebirth in my teachings. The wonderful thing is that after believers have been delivered, they all attend our classes on spiritual growth, receive training as cell leaders, move into leadership and become involved in healing and deliverance ministry.

For these true believers in the deliverance ministry, Hosea 4:6 can never be true, *“My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge.”*

True believers not only come into **existence** through our Lord Jesus Christ and His gospel, but they **exist** and **act** in relation to God, because all their **actions are performed in the Name of Jesus Christ.** According to Colossians 3:17, we call this a Christian lifestyle!

A religion gives expression to its belief and experiences in the form of certain inherited traditions, customs, liturgical systems, cultic actions, specific organization, form of government, etc.

When we consider the **Christian faith**, however, then all its forms of religious expression should flow from Christ, His gospel and the power of His blood. Everything must always be done in His Name, for He Himself wants to do it through His people by the power of His Holy Spirit. Here we refer to things like worship, expressions of praise, intercession by prayer, the exercise of the sacraments, ministries of healing and deliverance, etc. Nothing the Christian church and true believers think, experience or how they act, should take place outside Christ Jesus. To know Him and His gospel

and to experience the support of the Holy Spirit enable believers to function in the Name of Jesus. **Deliverance can therefore only be done in the Name of Jesus Christ the Son of God.**

1985 was our tenth year in full-time ministry. All was well – the family, the congregation and with my ambition to get to the top. I had just received my MTh and was registered for my PhD. Then I met Ed Murphy, one of the spiritual fathers of our time.

- His lecturing on Spiritual Warfare totally changed my way of thinking. No professor had ever taught me anything about the victorious life of believers in the “dispensation of the church”. Nobody ever told me that Jesus died for more than only our sins. All of us have accepted the above fact. But what about the important fact that Christ also died to be Lord of our lives? What about the fact that Christ died so that we can rule over all these negative circumstances we experience daily? What about the fact that the kingdom of God is now within us? Luke 17:21.
- Dr. Murphy used various scriptures to encourage and exhort us as believers to let the Holy Spirit change us in order to bear fruit and reign over circumstances in this life. Believers need to take responsibility for their choices as well as their spiritual and emotional growth to maturity. The Bible supported Dr. Murphy on this.
Gal. 2:20, “*So that it is no longer I that live, **but Christ who lives in me.**” This life that I live now, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave His life for me.*”

John 12:24, “*I am telling you the truth: a grain of wheat remains no more than a single grain unless it is dropped into the ground and dies. **If it does die, then it produces many grains.***”

Phil. 2:12, “**Keep on working with fear and trembling to complete your salvation, because God is always at work in you to make you willing and able to obey His own purpose.**”

Rev. 22:11, “*Whoever is evil must go on doing evil, and whoever is filthy must go on being filthy; whoever is good must go on being good, and **whoever is holy must go on being holy.***”

The first thing necessary to obtain just that is to get rid of all our negative thoughts and preconceived theological mindsets.

Yes, when we are born again, we receive the fullness of the everlasting life, but it is the believers’ mission to maintain a victorious lifestyle here on earth. Therefore it is very important to understand the functioning of man’s mind and to know that we are spirit, soul and body. It is also necessary to understand the way in which the enemy attacks our spirit, soul and body.

Only then can we really understand the depth of Eph. 6:12, “*For we are not fighting against human beings but against the wicked spiritual forces in the heavenly world, the rulers, authorities and cosmic powers of this dark age.*” The Lord of our lives had no intension that we should perish at the hands of the enemy or that he would eventually control us through strongholds in our lives. No, we are called to maintain a victorious lifestyle.

- **Who is this enemy and what is his strategy?** His name is Satan, the evil one and the father of all liars and lies, our adversary. His strategy is more complicated. He is afraid that should the Gospel of Jesus Christ

triumph, his temples and altars will be swept away, therefore he summoned his forces to destroy Christianity.

Initially the fires of persecution were kindled. Christians were stripped of their possessions and were driven from their homes. They endured affliction, cruel mocking, scourging and imprisonment. Christians were falsely accused of the most dreadful crimes and declared to be the cause of great calamities, famine, pestilence and earthquakes. They were condemned as rebels against the Roman Empire, as foes of religion and pests of society. Great numbers were thrown to wild beasts or burned alive in amphitheatres. Some were crucified; others were covered with the skin of wild animals and thrust into the arena to be torn apart by dogs. They were hunted like beasts of prey. Great numbers of believers sealed their testimonies with their blood. These persecutions continue with ranging fury for centuries.

Heb. 11:35-38, *“Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. Still others had trials of mocking and scourging, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented, of whom the world was not worthy.”*

But under the fiercest prosecution these witnesses of Jesus kept their faith unsullied. They definitely heard the voice coming from Revelation 2:10, *“Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.”*

In vain were Satan’s efforts to destroy the church of Christ by violence. These Christians fought the good fight and they are definitely going to receive the crown of glory when Christ comes back in glory.

Then Satan changed his strategy from a roaring lion to an angel of the light, by planting his banner in the Christian church. If the followers of Christ could be deceived and led to displease God, then their strength, fortitude and firmness would fail and they would fall an easy prey. Our adversary now endeavoured to gain by artifice a foothold in the lives of believers, that what he had previously failed to secure by force.

Persecution ceased and was substituted with the dangerous allurements of temporal prosperity and worldly honour. Idolaters were led to receive a part of the Christian faith, while they rejected other essential truths. They professed to accept Jesus Christ as the Son of God, but they had no conviction of sin, felt no need for repentance or saw no reason for a change of heart. Instead of holding fast unto their faith in Christ, they became compromisers who daily fell for the temptations coming from the world. Under a cloak of pretended Christianity Satan was very subtly initiating himself into the church to corrupt their faith and turn their minds from the Word of truth. Most Christians consented to lower their standards and before long we had the evil of syncretism. People could still cling to their idolatry or the lusts of the flesh, or their confounded traditions even after their conversion. As the followers of Jesus Christ united with idolaters, the Christian religion became corrupted and believers lost their purity and power. Even Jesus had Judas Iscariot who did not walk in the light, but he indulged in sin by yielding to the temptations of Satan. He chose to submit his mind to the control and power of darkness and so betrayed his Master.

Thus as long as persecution continued, the church remained comparatively pure. But as it ceased, fleshly converts were added and the way was opened for Satan to obtain a foothold in the church. Even

today we encounter those in the church who profess godliness while they are secretly cherishing iniquity, thus opening up to Satan to obtain a foothold in their lives.

- During the recent revival in China, one of the pastors was asked to what he contributed the unbelievable workings of the Holy Spirit. His answer came as a surprise: “I thank God for the communist party. They deported all the missionaries and confiscated all the church buildings. After the missionaries left, we had to teach the believers that they personally had to submit to a living relationship with Jesus, had to absolutely trust God and that they are the temple of the Holy Spirit. This good news fired up a national revival to the glory of God.”

THE BIBLE IS THE WORD OF THE LORD AND THE WORD IS OUR FOUNDATION AND POINT OF DEPARTURE

Through the Word, we discover Jesus,
Through the Word, we learn the Lord’s plan for our lives,
Through the Word, our spirit, soul and body are built up and kept healthy,
Through the Word, our family and congregation are built up,
Through the Word, we grow in the knowledge of Jesus,
Through the Word, we grow in our relationship with Jesus;
Through the Word, we learn the will of our Father for His Body.
Believers are inextricably linked to the Word. The *ekklesia*, the church, the body of Christ, is based upon the truths of the Word.

- **JESUS DIED UPON THE CROSS SO THAT WE CAN:**
Now get into the right relationship with the Lord;
Now be delivered and live in freedom;
Now live under God’s grace and in victory;
Now experience a life in abundance.
- **PEOPLE EASILY SAY: “BUT NOBODY REALLY HAS PROBLEMS”**
Did you know that according to statistics?
Nearly 25% of those reading this article are mentally deranged?
In 2002 thirty thousand marriages dissolved in the R.S.A., which permanently influenced forty nine thousand children?
In 2002 nearly 50% of all believers in the R.S.A. were divorced?
In 2002 more than 300 000 abortions were legally carried out in the R.S.A. We are more than naïve to think that only non-believers were involved.
In 2002 more than 22 000 people were murdered in the R.S.A.
Bruce Wilkinson in his book “Fruit of the Vine” claims that 95% of all believers’ bears little or no fruit at all? This speaks of believers who are totally uncommitted.
- **THE MAIN CAUSE OF ILLNESS IS NOT WHAT WE THINK!**
It is a known fact that 20% of all illnesses are physiological in origin. However, not so known is the fact that 80% of all illnesses are psychosomatic in origin where 90% of these are caused by problems in relationships.

We can only understand illness if we understand sin. **Sin has a progressive nature and the evident aim of sin is destruction. Sin also breeds sin.** Sin however does not only come to fruition in sinful deeds, but also finds expression in the shape of harmful mental and physical

conditions. Thus we find all kinds of harmful psychosomatic fixations, such as addiction to alcohol and drugs, sexual perversion, obsessive-compulsive disorders, rejection, anger, revenge, hatred, anxiety, depression, etc. The tragedy of sin is that the more you seek salvation through your own efforts, the more you become trapped and fall prey to other sins. **Sinful man needs a saviour to deliver him from the guilt and power of sin.**

The roots of nearly all of our family problems are, bitterness, unforgiveness, lack of or refusal to accept responsibility for choices culminating in a God-fruitful life.

Believers need to change in order to grow. A grain of wheat that does not want to change, cannot:

Reproduce the same kind. John 12:24.

Be of service whatsoever. Gal. 2:20.

Information that comes from the world only stimulates us, has no intrinsic value and is of little use.

Information that comes from the Word and is received in our hearts, transforms us, has results and changes our minds and attitude so that our lives bear fruit.

In order for us believers to grow and to be fruitful, we need to change.

- **THE LORD CANNOT USE US IF WE DO NOT WANT TO CHANGE**

In order for us to change, it may be necessary **to make adjustments** in one or more of the following areas of our lives:

In our circumstances (work, home, finances, etc.)

In our relationships (family, friends, partners, etc.)

In our minds (preconceptions, methods, our potential, etc.)

In our commitments (to families, church, work, plans, traditions, etc.)

In our deeds (how we pray, give, serve, etc.)

In our faith (in the Lord, His plans, His methods in our relationship with Him, etc.)

Our greatest adjustment and change comes when we experience a crisis and we must decide what we really believe about God. Only then do we adjust in such a way that we start doing the things of the Word that requires faith in the Lord. The most wonderful and exciting times are when we start doing the things that only the Lord can finish. Previously we would only do those things that we ourselves were capable of doing.

Therefore the command of Romans 12:1-2, *“So then, my brothers and sisters, because of God’s great mercy to us I appeal to you: Offer yourselves as a living sacrifice to God, dedicated to His service and pleasing to Him. This is the true worship that you should offer. Do not conform yourselves to the standards of this world, but let God transform you inwardly by a complete change of your mind. Then you will be able to know the will of God – what is good and is pleasing to Him and is perfect.”*

We need to be patient while the Lord is busy changing us.

Psalm 27:14, *“Trust in the Lord.”*

The modern believer lives in an **instant society** and therefore he also wants an instant or **quick fix religion**.

The grain farmer knows however that farming with wheat is a **process that takes time** and in order for him to harvest, he first needs to:

Fallow the land and remove all the trees and stones, then

Plough the land, then

Harrow the land, then

Fertilise the land, then

Sow the seed, and then

Irrigate the land.

Only now can he expect a bountiful harvest.

The person with the instant religion says:

Pray with me, for I cannot pray anymore, or

Give me anti-depressants for I cannot handle life anymore, or

Give me a sedative for life is one big problem, or

Give me a pill for energy for I am totally drained.

During a crusade, I was astonished when a woman asked me to pray for her gambling hands.

BUT THE LORD SAYS:

"I make My children rulers that can handle any problem.

I give My children power so that they can be My witness.

My children will experience full rivers and witness fires and find themselves in wars,

But I will carry My children through it all."

- **OUR PARADIGM OR FRAME OF REFERENCE IS ESTABLISHED AS A CHILD**

Normally our paradigm is established before we are 11 years of age. If however we grew up in a Christian home, it is usually formed before we are 7 years old.

Everything thereafter is an ongoing process of change.

Should we want this change to be lasting and permanent, we need to know that it can only be done through the Holy Spirit.

Change in any other way, however cosmetic, doesn't help at all.

A leopard **cannot** change his spots.

Therefore we need the Holy Spirit in order **to change us from the inside**.

Usually our paradigm is skew or negative.

Such a person thus lives in the present through his past in anticipation of his specific, usually negative, future expectation.

A wrong lifestyle develops due to these negative, wrongful influences from the past, with the following results: feelings of guilt, stress, depression, neurosis, poor self-image and perfectionism. Even physical deficiencies such as brain dysfunction, disturbed metabolism, disturbed sexual practices and psychosomatic illnesses can appear.

Therefore, it is our duty to develop a right or positive lifestyle.

Believers must once again experience **faith, hope, peace and comfort**, so that **they would choose** to victoriously walk in a new lifestyle.

Only the Holy Spirit who uses the Word can change our process of thought so that we can eventually change our behaviour patterns.

Without regeneration, this change will be impossible.

Anger, hate, bitterness and frustration **have their origin** in unforgiveness. This clearly implicates that such a person has not yet come to the cross himself for forgiveness.

Regeneration and prayer change our whole lifestyle. Believers, who worship the Lord and who pray to Him, will be less: morbid, negative, depressed, ill and will also heal faster.

- **WE LIVE ACCORDING TO OUR PARADIGM**

Believers need to know that their paradigm controls their lifestyle.

Deut. 6:4-9, *“Israel, remember this! The Lord and - the Lord alone – is our God. Love the Lord your God with all your soul and all your strength. Never forget these commands that I am giving you today. Teach them to your children. Repeat them when you are at home and when you are away, when you are resting and when you are working. Tie them on your arms and wear them on your foreheads as a reminder. Write them on the door-posts of your houses and on your gates.”*

Jesus also chose to do His father’s will in John 5:19, *“So Jesus answered them, ‘I am telling you the truth: the Son can do nothing on His own; He does only what He sees His Father doing. What the Father does, the Son also does.’”*

John 12:49, *“This is true, because I have not spoken on My own authority, but the Father who sent Me has commanded Me what I must say and speak.”*

We live according to the requirements and specifications of the Holy Spirit, as we find it in the parable of the Good Samaritan. There is no place for our own will or our own opinion or any grey areas in our lives.

- **WE LIVE ACCORDING TO OUR CHOICES**

The Lord has given every man a free will to choose in any given situation either to do his own will or to do God’s will.

Gal. 6:7, *“What you sow, you will reap.”*

Acts 26:20, *“First in Damascus and in Jerusalem and then in all Judea and among the Gentiles, I preached that they must repent of their sins and turn to God and do the things that would show they had repented.”*

Believers know that they will have to give to the Lord an account of themselves and all their deeds, whether it is good or bad.

Rom. 14:12, *“Everyone of us, then, will have to give an account of ourselves to God.”*

- **WE ARE SUPPOSED TO PROACTIVELY HANDLE OUR PROBLEMS AND NEVER TO REACT TO THEM**

Nowhere in my 14 years of tertiary education or the 18 years before that, did anybody teach me **how to proactively handle my problems**.

My teachers however were: An angry professor who refused to postpone a test no matter what the circumstances, a motorist with road rage, etc.

Our experience and therefore our handling of situations and problems, *positive or negative, reactive or proactive*, **determine our perception of ourselves**, in other words, our spiritual maturity and positive self-image.

- **WHAT IS OUR SELF-IMAGE?**

What we believe of ourselves influences us and eventually will determine what we are going to do.

Believers, growing up on the right side of town, even have problems motivating themselves.

If we believe that we are failures, we surely will fail.

Should we believe that we are winners in Christ, we will succeed and win even though we grew up on the wrong side of town.

It is important to know whom we, as believers, belong to. Only then do we realise our potential in Christ and our worth.

- **WHAT IS OUR PERCEPTION OF GOD?**

How do we see God's roll in our lives? If we never had a relationship with our biological father, we will not be able to have a **relationship** with our heavenly Father, cannot really **know** Him, and we will battle with issues such as **faith and trust**. The child with a poor father figure has a distorted God-image and trusts no one; let alone the God Whom he cannot see.

How do we see the world and ourselves in it? More important than anything else in the world, is how we see God's purpose with us. If the world with its glitter is more important for us than God's kingdom, we have a distorted God-perception.

Do we compare ourselves with the Word or do we compare ourselves with others who have a better education, have a better ability to talk, have more money, etc?

Do we really understand the way God weighs our ministry? Not quantitative, but **qualitative!**

What is more important for us – to do things right or to **do the right things?**

When and if we let ourselves to be influenced by problem situations, **we usually react.**

As believers with a positive perception of the Lord, we must however place our belief in Him and then choose not to react but to proactively **handle the situation.**

What the Lord actually wants, is for us:

To leave the past behind	= 0%
To leave the future in His hands and	= 0%
To live for Him today and trust Him	= 100%

Romans 5:1-11 tells us how to live in the “now” of our Lord.

The difference between a dead fish and one that is alive is **purposeful movement**. Dead fishes float down stream and fishes that are alive swim upstream through an inner motivation and reproduction drive.

- **OUR WORLD VIEW AND OUR LIFESTYLE**

Everybody, believers and non-believers, with a wrong, non-spiritual, outlook on life and with such a negative lifestyle, will sooner or later experience **social dysfunction** in their lives.

These are for example: Frustration with problems, stress that wants to spin out of control, helplessness, no expectation, discontentment, failure, fear, worries and discouragement.

But believers who have a **new lifestyle** in Christ and a **kingdom vision**, experience and witness social functioning, for example: Marital- and work satisfaction, fulfilment, peace, hopeful expectation, success, acknowledgement, acceptance, inner motivation and especially emotional maturity.

- **WITHOUT A SPIRITUAL WORLDVIEW, IN OTHER WORDS A POSITIVE KINGDOM VISION, WE HAVE NO MISSION IN LIFE**

The Lord does not have two types of histories, namely Church- and World-history, but rather our whole life is **His** history **with** us. Argue with Daniel or David or Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego on God's involvement in their work, homes or religion. Their experiences were always positive in spite of difficulties.

A right world-perception says:

God continuously works **in us** through His Holy Spirit.

Satan works **from outside** us to try and put us in bondage or get a stronghold in our lives.

The Holy Spirit is faithful and daily **leads us** in victory.

The Holy Spirit gives wisdom so that believers can cope with problems or difficulties.

Without the Holy Spirit:

There is no rebirth.

We live in sin.

We are in bondage.

We can even be demonised.

We become fanatical and critical.

With the indwelling Holy Spirit we experience:

Discipleship.

Inner healing.

Deliverance.

Word Therapy.

Emotional maturity.

Spiritual maturity.

Real growth in grace and knowledge.

Our attitude is more important than what we can ever imagine.

Our attitude is the most important life-changing thing about us.

Our attitude is more important than our education, our past, our looks, our money or possessions.

Our attitude makes us winners or losers.

For us as believers, our lives exist out of 10% of what happens to us.

The other 90% is our proactive handling of that which happens to us.

May this article unlock the doors of God's precious storerooms for you so that you can receive the knowledge and wisdom and so that you can experience the power of the blood of Jesus and above all, experience God's love. This will give your relationship with God another impetus. This will open up your spiritual eyes. This will establish your kingly authority. This will give your life a goal. This will give you a passion for suffering souls.

This might just let you embark upon a ministry of healing and deliverance.

A short CV on Gerrit

Gerrit Joachim Jansen van Veuren was borne on 18 December 1943 and grew up on a farm near Merweville in the district of Beaufort-West. He attended Merweville Secondary School and matriculated in December 1962 at Paarl Gymnasium. He studied at U.P. as well as I.C.S., London where he qualified as a geological surveyor. He met Annette Vermaak

and they got married on the 4 October 1969 in Windhoek. The couple were blessed with two daughters and one son. He obtained precious people skills during his years with a mining group.

During 1971 he received the Lord as his personal saviour and his whole life was changed. Early in 1974 God called him into the fulltime ministry and he spends his next three years on the A.F.M. Theological Seminary at Auckland Park. Since 1978, he served as an ordained pastor and together with Annette, they ministered to the following assemblies: Groblersdal, Durban-West, Lichtenburg, Primrose-East, Universiteitsig Johannesburg, Amanzimtoti and he is currently the presiding pastor at Shalom Ministries, Pinetown from where more than twenty branch assemblies have been established throughout sub-Sahara Africa.

During 1975 he registered at UNISA and received a B-degree in Theology. The fact that believers who after regeneration, still lived in unforgiveness, bitterness, jealousy, addiction, negativity and bondage really upset him. How could this be possible? As a committed pastor who wanted to help these people he furthered his studies in psychology, sociology and counselling. He obtained a Masters degree and received his Ph.D. in 1989 at Commonwealth University. He later obtained a D.Min in Counselling at Calvary University, a D.Divinity at Calvary University, A D.Theology in Ethics at Calvary University and a year ago a D.Litt. at St.Clements University.

Since his ordination he has been involved in Community service and rehabilitation centres. He served on various School and cultural committees. He has been a regular voice on Radio Today, Christian Network Radio, local Christian radio stations and TV religious programmes. He is involved with different Regional and National Church Councils and Religious commissions. He is a well-known motivational speaker in the community. As a student of the Occult and Freemasonry he is not only a speaker in the church world but he also wrote quite a lot of articles and study books on the subject.

Dr. Gerrit is however known for his Counselling Clinic in Pinetown. Thousands of people receive deliverance, healing and spiritual guidance every year. He has also written various articles and handbooks on Christian Counselling and Deliverance and he has trained hundreds of counsellors in the Afrikaans as well as English speaking churches. His handbook on Deliverance was written in Afrikaans and has been translated into Russian, Zulu, French and Portuguese and is currently in use at Bible Training Schools to train pastors and cell leaders in South Africa, Namibia, Angola, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Maputo, Malawi, Taiwan and Russia.

Dr. Gerrit can be contacted for ministry or a list of books and study guides can be obtained from **031 702 5813** or on Email at: **veuren@telkomsa.net**

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