Matt. 12:22-30, "The Stronger King: Deliverance..." by Rev. Paul Hudson

The Miracles of Jesus in Matthew Summary, Sermon Notes Handout, Daily Devotional, Study Questions, & Crossword, 10/11/26

Summary

Big Idea

Jesus, the stronger King, breaks into Satan's dark dominion by the Spirit, delivers whole persons, and gathers the scattered into his victorious kingdom.

Matthew presents a man blind and mute because of demon possession, showing that evil is personal, active, and able to infect the whole human experience. We must not say every illness is demonic, yet this deliverance exposes Satan's reign as never healing but always eroding. The church must refuse to sanitize darkness or call evil righteousness.

Jesus heals immediately, restoring sight, speech, and human wholeness as the kingdom of God arrives by the Spirit. The Pharisees' Beelzebul charge collapses: Satan cannot cast out Satan. Jesus binds the strong man, whose defeat was secured through Christ's cross and resurrection. Therefore, belong to Christ, stand in God's armor, and gather scattered people toward their true home.

Keys and Themes

1. Darkness Breaks the Whole Person

The man's blindness and muteness resulted from real spiritual bondage. Though not all bodily dysfunction is demonic, this story shows evil can damage bodies as well as souls.

2. Satan's Reign Only Erodes

Satan's kingdom brings chaos, shame, hidden pain, and miserable bondage throughout Adam's world. It offers places to hide but never heals wounds or gives freedom.

3. Jesus Restores Human Wholeness

Jesus does not merely remove the demon; he restores sight and speech. His deliverance opens eyes for worship and mouths for praise, anticipating complete renewal.

4. The Spirit Announces God's Kingdom

Jesus' exorcism cannot be Satan fighting himself. By the Spirit of God, Christ's deliverance reveals heaven's kingdom invading Satan's kingdom with healing and freedom.

5. The Stronger King Gathers

Jesus binds Satan, the strong man, and his victory is already won through cross and resurrection. Those gathered to Christ find their true home and join liberating work.

Sermon Notes Handout

Sermon Title: The Stronger King: Deliverance from Darkness | **Scripture:** Matt. 12:22-30

Point 1: Darkness Breaks the Whole Person

Fill in the blank: "The reign and rule of the devil is never healing, only ever _____."

Question: Where do you see darkness eroding life?

Notes:

_____

_____

Point 2: Jesus Delivers Entirely

Fill in the blank: "Jesus delivers _____!"

Question: What does Jesus restore in this man?

Notes:

_____

_____

Point 3: The Spirit Brings God's Kingdom

Fill in the blank: "The kingdom of God has come upon _____."

Question: Whose power drove out the demon?

Notes:

_____

_____

Point 4: Jesus Binds the Strong Man

Fill in the blank: "Satan is no match for the powerful _____."

Question: Do you trust Christ's greater authority?

Notes:

_____

_____

Point 5: Gathered, Not Scattered

Fill in the blank: "This is how we live out the victory of _____."

Question: Who needs Christ's true home?

Notes:

_____

_____

Reflection Question: Where do you need to stand in Christ's already-won victory this week?

Next Step: Put on one piece of God's armor each day and pray in the Spirit.

Family Discussion Question: How does Jesus bring scattered people into freedom and a true home?

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Daily Devotional

Sunday — Darkness That Erodes

Scripture: Matthew 12:22; 2 Corinthians 4:4

The man brought to Jesus was blind and mute because of demon possession. This passage takes us beyond physical brokenness and points to the source of evil and darkness itself. Satan's reign is never healing; it is always eroding. It brings chaos, chains, shame, and hidden pain into Adam's world. We should not make the domain of darkness appear lighter than it is. Yet the gospel light displays the glory of Christ and keeps the church from being blinded by the enemy's deception.

Reflect Questions:

1. Where have you made darkness seem less serious?

2. How can you remain in gospel light today?

Monday — Restored to Wholeness

Scripture: Matthew 12:22; Isaiah 35:4-10

Jesus cast out the demon, but he did not end there. The man could talk and see. Jesus healed him back to human wholeness. The devil may harm, poison, and bind, but Jesus delivers entirely. His salvation is not merely escape from evil's clutches; it restores our whole being for human flourishing. Isaiah's picture of opened eyes, joyful tongues, and rescued people entering Zion helps us see where Christ's kingdom is going: sorrow and sighing will flee away.

Reflect Questions:

1. What part of Christ's restoring work encourages you?

2. How can restored speech become praise today?

Tuesday — The Kingdom Has Come

Scripture: Matthew 12:25-28

The Pharisees called Jesus' good work evil, claiming he cast out demons by Beelzebul. Jesus answered their logic plainly: a divided kingdom cannot stand. Evil does not heal the wounded, free the bound, and restore the broken. If Jesus drives out demons by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon us. This miracle is not a struggling kingdom asking for room in Satan's world. It is God's kingdom breaking in with supreme authority and freedom.

Reflect Questions:

1. How does Jesus expose the Pharisees' false accusation?

2. Where do you see Christ restoring what is broken?

Wednesday — The Strong Man Bound

Scripture: Matthew 12:29; Genesis 3:15; Colossians 2:15

Jesus identifies Satan as the strong man, yet Satan is no match for the powerful Jesus. Christ enters the strong man's house, binds him, and carries away what he held captive. The cross looked like Satan's decisive blow, but it became a public spectacle of his defeat. In resurrection power, Christ crushed the Serpent's head. This is not a yin and yang battle between equals. The devil still prowls, but his judgment has already come and his kingdom is on its last leg.

Reflect Questions:

1. What false view makes Satan seem Christ's equal?

2. How does Christ's victory change your fear?

Thursday — Gathered Into a True Home

Scripture: Matthew 12:30; Ephesians 6:10-18

Jesus says whoever is not with him is against him, and whoever does not gather with him scatters. His kingdom will be the only kingdom left standing. To be gathered to Jesus is to receive a place in his holy, eternal kingdom; to remain apart from him is wandering homelessness, never finding a true home. This reality gives the church a missional heart. We stand in Christ's victory not only for ourselves, but to help bring scattered captives into the freedom we have found.

Reflect Questions:

1. Who around you seems spiritually scattered?

2. How can you join Christ's gathering work?

Friday — Truth Against Deception

Scripture: Ephesians 6:10-18; Matthew 12:24-28

Jesus knew the Pharisees' thoughts and exposed their deceptive claim. The enemy's schemes include blinding minds and confusing good with evil. Therefore, the first piece of armor named is the belt of truth: be bound with the truth of Christ rather than Satan's lies. Take up the sword of the Spirit, the Word of God, to destroy every form of deception that comes at you. Spiritual warfare is not fought against flesh and blood. It is standing firmly in what Christ has said and done.

Reflect Questions:

1. What lie needs Christ's truth today?

2. How will you use God's Word this week?

Saturday — Praying From Victory

Scripture: Ephesians 6:10-18; Romans 16:20

The sermon's final instruction is not to panic before a seemingly powerful enemy, but to pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. We are given power to live in the victory Christ has already won here and now. Faith trusts Christ amid fiery attacks; salvation guards the mind with ultimate hope; the gospel of peace directs our steps. Prayer is how we live out that victory while the devil prowls under the certainty of his coming final defeat.

Reflect Questions:

1. What request will you bring to God today?

2. How does prayer express trust in Christ's victory?

Study Questions

Read Matt. 12:22-30 and listen to the sermon "The Stronger King: Deliverance from Darkness" (10/11/26)

Observation

1) What conditions did the demon-possessed man experience before Jesus healed him?

2) How did the crowd respond after the man could talk and see?

3) What accusation did the Pharisees make about Jesus' power?

4) What armor pieces does Ephesians 6 name in the sermon?

Interpretation

1) Why does this miracle address more than physical brokenness?

2) How does Jesus refute the claim that Satan empowered his exorcisms?

3) What does binding the strong man reveal about Jesus' authority?

4) What does gathering with Jesus mean for scattered people?

Application

1) Where might you be tempted to sanitize evil or call darkness light?

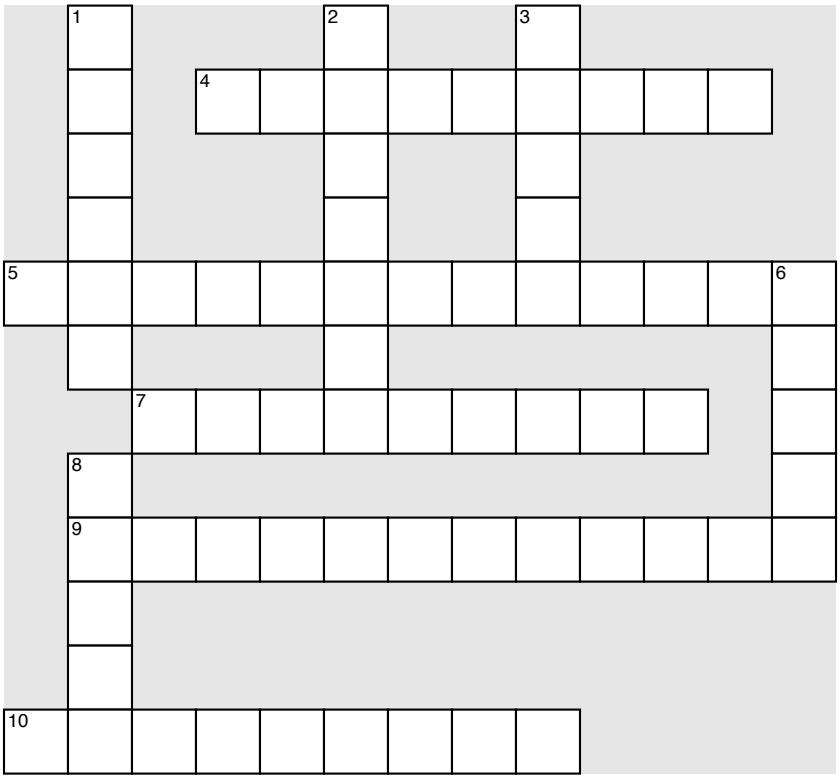
2) How can Christ's deliverance move you toward praise and worship?

3) Which piece of God's armor do you need to put on deliberately?

4) How can you help gather someone who is spiritually scattered?

Crossword Puzzle

The Stronger King: Deliverance from Darkness | Matt. 12:22-30 | 10/11/26



Across

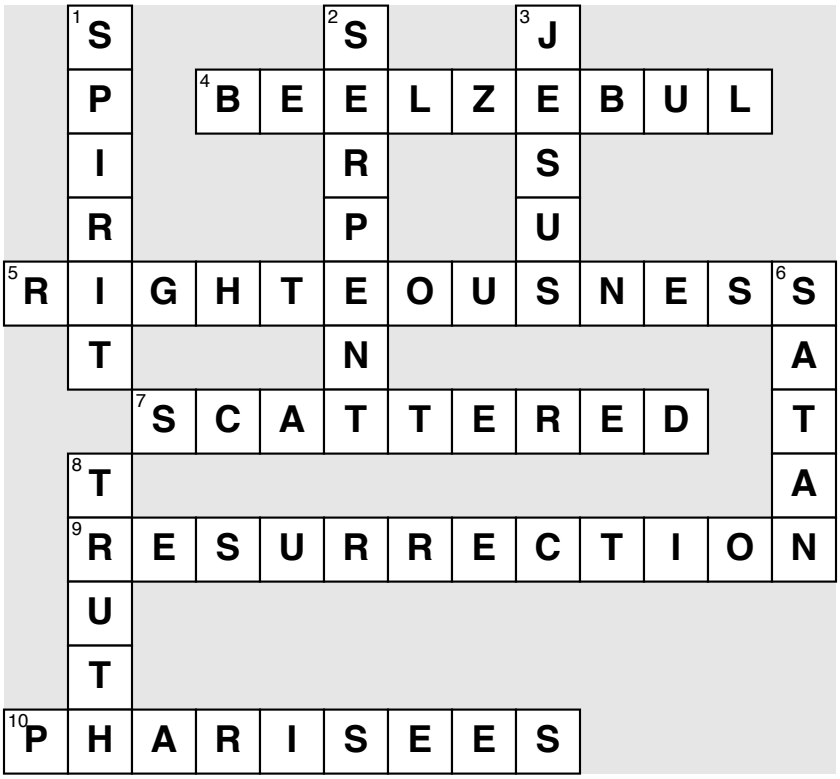
4. Name used in the Pharisees' accusation
5. Armor planted firmly on the heart
7. Those not gathered with Jesus
9. Christ's power living in believers
10. Leaders who called Jesus' work demonic

Down

1. God's power in Jesus' deliverance
2. Cursed deceiver whose head Christ crushes
3. The King who casts out the demon
6. The strong man Jesus binds
8. Armor opposing Satan's lies

Crossword Answer Key

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Across Answers

4. BEELZEBUL
5. RIGHTEOUSNESS
7. SCATTERED
9. RESURRECTION
10. PHARISEES

Down Answers

1. SPIRIT
2. SERPENT
3. JESUS
6. SATAN
8. TRUTH