

# Seeing **CHRIST** through the Eyes of Luke

---

## With or Against Jesus | Luke 11:14-28 | 03.26.23

**Romans 11:33-34** *Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out! <sup>34</sup>“For who has known the mind of the LORD? Or who has become His counselor?”*

**Deuteronomy 29:29** *“The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but those things which are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law.*

**Luke 11:23** *He who is not **with Me is against Me**, and he who does not gather with Me scatters*

- Jesus clearly taught that there is no neutral ground regarding who He is.
- You cannot take Jesus' words seriously and remain comfortable in rebellion.
- Jesus only provided us with two options, embrace Him as Lord or face Him as judge.

**“You may be careless** about your soul; Satan is not. Satan will tell you at the beginning of your lives, it is too soon to serve God – he will tell you at the end, it is too late.”

J.C. Ryle (1816-1900)

**The fear of the Lord** is an understanding that He knows everything about me, and one day I will give an account of myself to Him.

**“Folly** is a more dangerous enemy to the good than evil. One can protest against evil; it can be unmasked and if need be, prevented by force. Evil always carries the seeds of its own destruction as it makes people at the least uncomfortable. Against **folly** we have no defense. Neither protests nor force can touch it; reasoning is no use; facts that contradict personal prejudices can simply be disbelieved – indeed, the **fool** can counter by criticizing them, and if they are undeniable, they can just be pushed aside as trivial exceptions. So, the **fool**, as distinct from the scoundrel, is completely self-satisfied; in fact he can easily become dangerous, as it does not take much to make him aggressive. A **fool** must therefore be treated more cautiously than a scoundrel; we shall never again try to convince a **fool** by reason, for it is both useless and dangerous. If we are to deal adequately with **folly**, we must try to understand its nature. This much is certain it is a moral rather than an intellectual defect...The fact that a **fool** is often stubborn must not mislead us into thinking that he is independent. One feels in fact when talking to him, that one is dealing, not with the man himself, but with slogans, catchwords, and the like, which have taken hold of him. He is under a spell, his is blinded, his very nature is being misused and exploited. Having thus become a passive instrument, the **fool** will be capable of any evil and at the same time incapable of seeing that it is evil. Here lies the danger of a diabolical exploitation that can do irreparable damage to human beings. But at this point it is quite clear, too, that **folly** can be overcome, not by instruction, but only by an act of liberation... The Bible's Words that ‘the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom’ (Psalm 111:10) tell us that a person's inward liberation to live a responsible life before God is the only real cure for **folly**.” Dietrich Bonhoeffer 1906-1945

**Matthew 16:21-23** *From that time Jesus began to show to His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised the third day. <sup>22</sup> Then Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, "Far be it from You, Lord; this shall not happen to You!" <sup>23</sup> But He turned and said to Peter, "Get behind Me, Satan! You are an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men."*

**"There are two equal** and opposite errors into which our race can fall about the devils. One is to disbelieve in their existence. The other is to believe and to feel an excessive and unhealthy interest in them. They themselves are pleased by both errors." C.S. Lewis

### **Visit GotQuestions.org.**

Demons are fallen angels, as **Revelation 12:9** indicates: "The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him." Satan's fall from heaven is symbolically described in **Isaiah 14:12-15** and **Ezekiel 28:12-15**. When he fell, Satan took some of the angels with him—one-third of them, according to **Revelation 12:4**, **Jude 6** also mentions angels who sinned. So, biblically, demons are fallen angels who chose to rebel against God. Some of the demons are already locked "in darkness, bound with everlasting chains" (**Jude 1:6**) for their sin. Others are free to roam and are referred to as "the powers of this dark world and . . . the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms" in **Ephesians 6:12**; **Colossians 2:15**. The demons still follow Satan as their leader and do battle with the holy angels in an attempt to thwart God's plan and hinder God's people (**Daniel 10:13**, **1 Thess. 2:18**). Demons, as spirit beings, have the ability to take possession of a physical body. Demonic possession occurs when a demon completely controls a non-believer's body. A genuine believer can be harassed/oppressed by demons but *cannot* be possessed.

**1 John 4:1-6** (v4)...*You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world...*

Whenever we oppose God's will, we align ourselves with Satan. This is not about being possessed but about being deceitfully influenced. **Matthew 16:21-23**, **Acts 5:3. 1 Timothy 3:6**, **Ephesians 4:7**

- Satan is a personal being with a mind, emotions, and a will (**Job 1**; **Matthew 4:1-12**).
- He is a created being and is not equal to God (**Ezekiel 28:15**).
- Satan and the demons will experience eternal punishment (**Matthew 25:41**).
- Satan is not omnipresent. But he does oversee a host of demons, called "the powers of this dark world and . . . the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms" (**Ephesians 6:12**).
- He actively works to nullify the effect of the Word of God in people's hearts (**Matthew 13:3-4, 19**), and he blinds the intellect of those who do not believe so they cannot understand the gospel (**2 Corinthians 4:4**, **Acts 26:18**).

### **Ephesians 6:10-13**

- "wiles"- methods or schemes of the devil
- "principalities" - rulers