A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.

Ephesians 6:10-12 (NLT)

. WHO ARE DEMONS?

1. Demons are fallen angels who joined Satan's rebellion

Then there was a war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. But the dragon was not strong enough, and he and his angels lost their place in heaven. The giant dragon was thrown down out of heaven. (He is that old snake called the devil or Satan, who tricks the whole world.) The dragon with his angels was thrown down to the earth.

Revelation 12:7-9 (NCV)

2. Demons are individual spirit beings who display personality, emotions, the ability to choose, and even speak

When an evil spirit leaves a person, it travels through the desert, looking for a place to rest. But when it doesn't find a place, it says, "I will go back to the home I left." When it gets there and finds the place clean and fixed up, it goes off and finds seven other evil spirits even worse than itself. They all come and make their home there, and that person ends up in worse shape than before.

Luke 11:24-26 (CEV)

3. Demons' power, influence, and knowledge are significant – but limited

The devil was a murderer from the beginning...He's a liar and the father of lies.

John 8:44 (GOD'S WORD)

4. Demons can oppress people

News about him spread all over Syria, and people brought to him all who were ill with various diseases, those suffering severe pain, the demon-possessed, those having seizures, and the paralyzed, and he healed them.

Matthew 4:24 (NIV)

5. Demon oppression is a progressive condition

II. WHAT DOES THIS INCIDENT TELL US ABOUT JESUS?

1. Jesus will go through hell to save one person

2. Jesus has authority over the evil spirit world

Christ is now in heaven, where he sits at the right side of God. All angels, authorities, and powers are under his control.

1 Peter 3:22 (CEV)

3. Jesus considers no one beyond His power to save

For the LORD your God is living among you. He is a mighty savior. He will take delight in you with gladness. With his love, he will calm all your fears. He will rejoice over you with joyful songs."

Zephaniah 3:17 (NLT)

4. Jesus can put me in my "right mind" too

Don't worry about anything, but pray about everything. With thankful hearts offer up your prayers and requests to God. Then, because you belong to Christ Jesus, God will bless you with peace that no one can completely understand. And this peace will control the way you think and feel.

Philippians 4:6-7 (CEV)

5. Jesus' presence always disrupts my life

6. Jesus calls me to tell others what He has done for me

I cannot count the times when you have faithfully rescued me from danger. I will tell everyone how good you are, and of your constant, daily care. I walk in the strength of the Lord God. I tell everyone that you alone are just and good.

Psalm 71:15-16 (TLB)

III. HOW CAN I BE DELIVERED FROM MY DEMONS?

1. Affirm Jesus' as Lord through the spiritual disciplines

You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.

1 John 4:4 (NIV)

2. Repent of the sin in my life

So place yourselves under God's authority. Resist the devil, and he will run away from you.

James 4:7 (GOD'S WORD)

3. Avoid any involvement in the occult

Do not defile yourselves by turning to mediums or to those who consult the spirits of the dead. I am the LORD your God.

Leviticus 19:31 (NLT)