

When Demons Surface: True Stories of Spiritual Warfare and What the Bible Says about Confronting the Darkness

by Steve Dabbs

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Demystifying Spiritual Warfare: True Stories and Biblical Insights

"A worthy contribution to the literature on a biblical calling that the church needs to understand and...engage in."

Jeffrey J. Niehaus, PhD, senior professor of Old Testament, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary

Spiritual warfare is real. Demons exist. Yet, the modern church rarely discusses these topics. Many believers remain largely uneducated about the evil forces at work around them and the authority Jesus grants Christians to successfully combat them.

In When Demons Surface: True Stories of Spiritual Warfare and What the Bible Says about Confronting the Darkness (Baker Books, July 2024), Chaplain Steve Dabbs recounts more than 50 true stories of demonic encounters. Including personal and pastoral experiences, he presents a well-rounded guide to spiritual warfare.

Chaplain Dabbs pairs advanced biblical and historical research with gripping narratives to equip believers and educate a cynical modern world. When Demons Surface provides exegesis from the biblical languages of Hebrew and Greek as well as analysis of ancient historical records for practical application in this deceptively deep, accessible book.

Steve recounts surprising occurrences of ghost visits, paranormal activities, sex-related addictions, and mental and medical health issues as examples of our spiritual war against the evil one—a war he cannot win due to the atoning work of Christ. He points to repentance and faith in Christ as the source of our ultimate victory.

Steve is available for interviews to discuss:

- Learning the origins of demons, as well as their goals, tactics, and weaknesses
- Recounting perilous tales of contending with and expelling demons
- Equipping Christians to successfully combat evil spirits through Christ's power and authority
- Clarifying modern misconceptions about the spiritual warfare gathered from media depictions



Connect with Steve:

IAmSteveDabbs.com



About the Author

Steve Dabbs is a retired senior military chaplain with over 35 years of expertise in pastoral care and leadership. He continues to serve as a counselor, consultant, and life coach to young adults, leaders, and warriors. He has earned three degrees, including a master of divinity from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, a master of military art and science from Air University, and a bachelor of arts in biblical studies from LeTourneau University. He utilizes academic research in historical theology and ancient biblical languages to make the Bible practical for modern audiences.

PRAISE for When Demons Surface

"'The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons' (1 Tim. 4:1 NIV). That is presently happening all over the world, and pastors, disciplers, and counselors are waking up to that reality and learning how to set captives free. Steve Dabbs discovered this when he was a chaplain in the military and shares his learning and experiences in this helpful book that you should read and add to your library."

Dr. Neil T. Anderson, founder and president emeritus of Freedom in Christ Ministries

"Steve Dabbs's new book, When Demons Surface, is a very readable introduction to the topic of spiritual warfare. He gives abundant evidence of what the Bible says about Satan and demons and also draws copiously on extrabiblical sources from the ancient world on the subject."

Jeffrey J. Niehaus, PhD, senior professor of Old Testament, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary

"Steve wrote a much-needed book sharing his incredible experience based on a careful understanding of the biblical reality and danger of demonic forces. His expert analysis of the biblical languages coupled with historical context will challenge and inform modern ideas on the subject as well as open eyes and hearts to the spiritual battle raging in our world today."

Hobert K. Farrell, PhD, professor emeritus of biblical studies, LeTourneau University



Sample Interview Questions for Steve Dabbs

When Demons Surface

- Thanks for joining us, Steve. Will you begin by sharing a bit about yourself and what led you to author this book?
- When Demons Surface begins by exploring your experiences with demons as a teenager.
 Will you describe the nature of these encounters and what you believe to be the cause?
- Encounters with evil spirits and demonic forces have occurred since the Garden of Eden. Yet, these topics are rarely discussed in many current Christian spaces. Why is this so?
- Will you talk a bit about the Lord's Prayer, its historical context, and its applications to spiritual warfare?
- You assert in Chapter 7 that Christians can, in fact, be demonized, contrary to popular belief. How did you reach that conclusion?
- Repentance and fasting are major themes in the book. Why were you led to put such emphasis on these practices?
- When Demons Surface includes accounts of "ghost" encounters. In each case, 1 John 4:1-3 is referenced. What do these verses say, and how are they useful to believers?
- In Chapter 16, you write that our highest priority is "continual submission to the Lordship of Jesus Christ." Will you unpack that statement for us?
- In your time as a chaplain, you have seen cases of demonization as the cause of mental and medical health issues. How can we discern when this is the case?
- Some Christians have never experienced an encounter with a demon. In this book alone, you discuss dozens of first-hand accounts. Why do you believe this is the case?
- Where can we connect with you and purchase a copy of When Demons Surface?