

And if the bugler doesn't sound a clear sound, how will the soldiers know they are being called to battle?

1st Corinthians 14:8 NLV

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First Love Ministries, Inc.

Prayer Study #151

Bless this House

When you enter a city or town, find some worthy person there and stay in that home until you leave. When you enter that home, say, "Peace be with you." If the people there welcome you, let your peace stay there. But if they don't welcome you, take back the peace you wished for them. And if a home or town refuses to welcome you or listen to you, leave that place and shake its dust off your feet. Matthew 10:11-15

Defiled Land Taken from Alice Smith's *How to Minister Spiritual Housekeeping*, a chapter in Doris Wagner's *How to Minister Freedom*
EXAMPLE ONE

It was eerie as the pastor and I stood on the cleared land-stripped by a raging flood. A church building once stood here; however, the flood had swept it away. The pastor began to explain all the problems with the escrow, the building, unexplainable odors on the property and the people's behaving strangely. Now the shattered building was flowing down the San Jacinto River. "What are we dealing with?" the pastor asked. "It sounds like defiled land to me," I bluntly answered. "Well, that could be. The movie Grave Secrets was made about this neighborhood. Apparently it was once an Indian burial ground. The developers never told the residents who bought the homes. Many began to have light bulbs burst, smell strange odors and experience increased sickness. Although I don't know the outcome, some of the residents filed lawsuits against the developers. Some of the homes stand abandoned today. Even though we are in the same subdivision, I thought we were far enough away to avoid problems."

EXAMPLE TWO

Before I entered the ministry, I was a real estate agent in Houston, Texas. I once listed a very attractive home on the north side of town that had every promise for a good sale. The renters had moved out. The owners, a precious but confused Christian couple, now wanted to sell the house. They confided in me that they felt something was wrong with it. They were right. Even though I had contracted the house to be painted inside and out and installed new wallpaper and carpet, I still couldn't sell this house. So one day I took a team of praying people to the vacant house with me. Before we

could get out of the car, our son said that he felt the Lord speak to him that a teenage boy had practiced witchcraft in this home. Then he said to us, "There is a black, spray painted pentagram on the ceiling of the house." I told him that this was impossible because I had listed the house and no such thing was there. But realizing the nature of revelation, we determined to look inside the attic. We pulled the rope, opening the door to the attic and climbed in. As we turned on the light, our eyes locked on a huge black pentagram that had been sprayed on the bare wood around the beams. As the owners repented for the defilement of the home and dedicated it to the Lord, we were confident that He had heard our prayers. Less than 12 hours later the home sold for full price, after having been on the market for over six months.

Symptoms of Spiritual Pollution in Homes

Alice Smith goes on to list symptoms of spiritual pollution in our homes:

1. Sudden ongoing illness
2. Continual bad dreams and nightmares
3. Insomnia
4. Behavioral problems among the adults or children(continual fighting and misunderstandings)
5. No peace
6. Unexplained illnesses(such as chronic headache or fatigue)
7. Heightened bondages such as increased mental and physical perversion
8. Ghosts or demonic apparitions
9. Poltergeist(the movement of physical objects by demons)
- 10.Foul unexplainable odors
- 11.Atmospheric heaviness(which make it hard to breathe)

Ridding Your Home of Spiritual Darkness BY CHUCK PIERCE

1. Do you have any object or artwork that represents a foreign God? Have you been to foreign countries or cities within our nation where you have bought objects for souvenirs(e.g. a statue of Buddha)?
2. Do have any objector artwork related to false religions(e.g. the book of Mormon)?
3. Do you have any objects related to the occult? (e.g. Ouija boards or tarot cards). They must be destroyed completely.
4. Do you have any objects related to Secret Societies(e.g. Freemasonry)?

5. Review your children's games and toys with them to see if any occult practice is used to wield victory (e.g. Dungeons and dragons or demonic video games)?
6. Do you have any objects that are linked with inordinate affection from previous relationships (e.g. old love letters or gifts)?
7. Do you have fetishes that are linked with superstitions (e.g. good luck charms)?
8. Do you have objects linked with familial spirits that your family has passed on from generation to generation?
9. Do you have movies, books, magazines, pictures, and other objects that do not glorify the Holy character of God? Are these objects hindering your life of worship?
10. Do you have objects or books that are a part of your belief systems that are contrary to the teaching of the blood of Jesus?

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But is Defilement of People, Lands, and Houses Scriptural?

Leviticus 11:44-47: *For I am the LORD your God; ye shall therefore sanctify yourselves, and ye shall be holy; for I am holy; neither shall ye defile yourselves with any manner of creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. For I am the LORD who bringeth you up out of the land of Egypt, to be your God; ye shall therefore be holy, for I am holy. This is the law of the beasts and of the fowl and of every living creature that moveth in the waters, and of every creature that creepeth upon the earth; to make a difference between the unclean and the clean, and between the beast that may be eaten and the beast that may not be eaten.*

Leviticus 18:25: *And the land is defiled; therefore I do visit the iniquity thereof upon it, and the land itself vomiteth out her inhabitants.*

Numbers 35:34: *Defile not, therefore, the land which ye shall inhabit, wherein I dwell, for I the LORD, dwell among the children of Israel.*

Jeremiah 2:7: *And I brought you into a plentiful country, to eat its fruit and its goodness, but when ye entered, ye defiled my land and made mine heritage an abomination.*

Ezekiel 22:4: *Thou art become guilty in thy blood that thou hast shed, and hast defiled thyself in thine idols which thou hast made, and thou hast caused thy days to draw near, and art come even unto thy years; therefore have I made thee a reproach unto the nations and a mocking to all countries.*

Ezekiel 36:17-18: *Son of man, when the house of Israel dwelt in their own land, they defiled it by their own way and by their doings; their way was before me as the uncleanness of a defiled woman. Wherefore, I poured my fury upon them for the blood that they had shed upon the land, and for their idols by which they had polluted it.*

Psalm 106:37-39: *Yea, they sacrificed their sons and daughters unto demons. And shed innocent blood, even the blood of their sons and of their daughters, whom they sacrificed unto the idols of Canaan, and the land was polluted with blood.*

Isaiah 59:3: *For your hands are defiled with blood and your fingers with iniquity; your lips have spoken lies, your tongue hath muttered perverseness.*

Acts 19 tells us how the believers in Ephesus cleansed their houses of defilement by bringing occult objects and books to a public bonfire which Peter Wagner estimates destroyed \$4 million worth of occult items.

Deuteronomy 18 tells us of some occult practices to avoid if we do not want to see our homes defiled.

Should Houses Be Cleansed of Evil Spirits? By Frank and Ida Mae Hammond in *Pigs in the Parlor*

Due to my involvement with demons through deliverance I have heard many reports of unusual demon activities in connection with houses and objects. Frequently I am requested to drive demons out of houses. Books and objects identified with anything related to Satan's kingdom have been known to attract demons. Sinful activities on the part of former residents account for some houses needing to be cleansed. Many have told of hearing voices or sounds in their houses. Such manifestations are sometimes called "poltergeist," a German word meaning "knocking or noisy ghosts."

While ministering to a nine year old girl, the mother told us that the girl awakened every night in the middle of the night. She would be very frightened. They could not account for this. The ministry for the girl turned up nothing that was suspect. We asked that we might inspect the girl's bedroom. Three things were found in the room which we had discovered could attract evil spirits. There was a book about a witch-secured through the public school. Then there was a big, stuffed toy frog, and over the girl's

bed was a mobile from which dangled half a dozen little owl images that glowed in the dark.

The family agreed to remove these objects and destroy them. We commanded all demons hiding in the room to leave immediately in the name of Jesus, and pled the covering of the blood of Jesus over the girl. The girl has slept peacefully ever since.

What about the owls and frogs? These are classified among the creatures mentioned in Deuteronomy 14:7-19 as being unclean and abominable. They are types of demon spirits. My ministry has taken me into many homes, and I have become aware of how many of these unclean creatures are being made into art objects and used for decorations. This is especially true of owls and frogs. It is more than coincidence that both of these are creatures of darkness. They come out at night and hunt their prey. Demons are also creatures of darkness. They cannot operate in the light!

In another home we found a twelve year old boy who was having trouble sleeping. He was very nervous and fearful. The home was filled with many objects that had been brought from the mission fields of Africa. There was a witch's mask and fetishes used by witch doctors and in heathen worship. Sometimes the economic or sentimental value of such objects mean more to persons than the welfare of family. Hear what God told His people, Israel, about such things:

The graven images of their gods you shall burn with fire; you shall not desire the silver or gold that is on them, nor take it for yourself, lest you be ensnared by it; for IT IS AN ABOMINATION TO THE LORD YOUR GOD. Neither shall you bring an abomination (an idol) into your house, lest you be ensnared by it; FOR IT IS AN ABOMINATION TO THE LORD YOUR GOD. Deuteronomy 7:25-26(Amplified)

Demons are definitely attracted to houses by objects and literature that pertain to false religions, cults, the occult and spiritism. All such materials should be burned or otherwise destroyed. Houses or buildings which are suspect of demon infestation should be cleansed by the authority of the name of Jesus. Those who live in such places should stand on the provisions of the blood of Christ.

I personally would add that we have seen houses defiled by clothing, furniture, posters on the wall, pictures, even old photos and love letters, etc.

Prayer for Spiritual Cleansing of Home, Apartment or Room by Neil Anderson in *The Steps to Freedom in Christ*

Heavenly Father, I acknowledge that You are the Lord of heaven and Earth. In Your sovereign power and love, You have entrusted me with many things. Thank You for this place to live. I claim my home as a place of spiritual safety for me and my family and ask for Your protection from all the attacks of the enemy. As a child of God, raised up and seated with Christ in the heavenly places, I command every evil spirit claiming ground in this place, based on the activities of past or present occupants, including me and my family, to leave and never return. I renounce all demonic assignments, directed against this place. I ask You, Heavenly Father, to post Your holy angels around this place to guard it from any and all attempts of the enemy to enter and disturb Your purposes for me and my family. I thank You, Lord, for doing this in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen

We recommend at First Love that at least two or more seasoned intercessors, especially those who operate in discerning of spirits, go to the home and assess the situation. We point out objects that we think might be cursed, but the home owner must determine whether to destroy the object or not. Neil Anderson's prayer covers the bases, but we especially emphasize repentance of any actions of both present and past owners. The majority of home owners are not the original owners, and you do not what activities may have taken place in the house before your occupancy. We also emphasize the need and helpfulness of breaking all ungodly soul ties, and we like to read and pray Psalm 91 over a house and plead the blood of Jesus over the house and all occupants.

PSALM 91

He who dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress, my God; in Him will I trust. Surely He shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler and from the noisome pestilence. He shall cover thee with His feathers and under His wings shall thou trust; His truth shall be thy shield and buckler. Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night nor for the arrow that flieth by day. Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday. A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand, but it shall not come near thee. Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked. Because thou hast made the LORD, who is my refuge, even the MOST HIGH, thy habitation, there shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come near thy dwelling. For He shall give His angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone. Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder; the young lion and the serpent shall thou trample under feet. Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him; I will set him on high, because he hath known my name. He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him. I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him and honor him. With long life will I satisfy him and show him my salvation.