

The Explanation of an Incident of Our Lord Jesus Christ by Gottfried Mayerhofer (ca. 1870-1877)

Jesus and Beelzebul (Luke 11:14-28)

In order to understand and appreciate this deed, you must first know how the devils enter man and what they actually are. and what they are in fact, so that you can understand how to cast them out. can become understandable to you. In order to make this clear to you, I must go further and take you back to earlier periods of time in which there was no material world but only the spirit realm existed.

Out of arrogance and defiance the first angel, light bearer up to the farthest rooms of the spirit heaven, abused his power and rebelled against me together with his followers. Since he, as well as his henchmen, did not want to know anything about a return, they were banished into matter and had to start on long ways of the step-like purification the decline to the once been better state, which purification process still continues today, until all have become again what they once were, namely: Recognizers of my power and love and active promoters of my great plan of creation.

Now, you see, in that distant time, when, as is still valid now, the individual freedom of the spirit was established as inviolable, the spirits, as well as Satan himself, were free to turn back from their wrong direction or not.

But since the spirits were not all equal in knowledge, goodness and insight - as even today there are not two creatures that are spiritually alike - the way of those beings to think and act was very different. For one his spiritual level was sufficient, for the other not. The one was steadfast and resisted the temptations of worse, the other, however, resisted the influence of better.

Thus, there was not an equally ordered series of stages, but as much as there were spiritually thinking beings, just as versatile were also the views and ideas of me, of the world and of the necessary progress.

This great difference, which exists among the good spirits as well as among the bad ones, who rather regard Satan as the highest - as the good ones do me - just conditioned the spiritual life and activity, which is necessary for the existence of the great spirit kingdom. Although the great mass of apostate spirits under their main leaders took a different direction than the one intended for all, their actions, which are contrary to me and my principle of goodness, would have to serve my purposes only. They must recognize My omnipotence in the results that do not correspond to their desires, from which they cannot escape - they may do what they want. The same being and doing of the spirits is found with the souls called away from all worlds, who live in the hereafter. They also have freedom of will. They can go forward or backward, can do what they want, can go in a minute from the hellish agony of a tormenting conscience to the bliss of an angel, can remain what they were in earthly life or become even more evil, even worse, through contact with other, worse souls. Their sphere of action is not limited by anything but by the means of existence which every spiritual level brings with it.

Original spirits, not yet incarnated, as well as departed ones, from human bodies, which have no urge to advance, seek - since activity is a law of life, without which nothing can exist - to occupy themselves by trying to draw into their sphere either spirits or beings still living, whose inclination admits of influence, and to teach them their views and inclinations. Hence it comes about that the more man nourishes his own evil and bad passions, the more easily he is subjected to this otherworldly influence, and at last becomes a prey entirely to these evil spirits, who are tormented by boredom.

Just as through writing, tapping and other means the spirits can influence individual (receptive) souls and indirectly at least contribute to the unbelievers coming to the realization: "There is another world", in the same way the bad spirits of the deceased influence the mind, even the physical organization of man, of which raving madness and other diseases are the outwardly visible consequences.

Thus, if you would see with spiritual eyes, you can behold a whole new world in and around you, which, just like the outer material one, strives to make it as difficult as possible for you to go to Me.

That is why I once called out to My disciples in the Garden of Gethsemane, "Watch and pray, lest you fall into temptation!"

At first, these spiritual influences are so mild and gentle, hiding their pernicious poison under subtle reasons of self-love, that a fine feeling and constant vigilance are necessary in order not to do the will of others instead of one's own will. But if there is steadfastness and the evil or bad spirit sees that its influences are not listened to, then it desists of its own accord, because it also does not want to lose its time uselessly.

This invisible influencing and changing of matter, this coming into being and passing away and passing over into other forms, all this would - if you had the spiritual sight - take place in the spiritual world before your eyes, in an even larger scale, because you could see through the spirits and already notice from the beginning which idea now moves one or the other to do this or that. You would have to apply to this spiritual world a completely different standard than to your material world, because there already the thoughts are weighed, while in your visible world a thousand thoughts pass you by unnoticed, until perhaps only the last one, by the deed, betrays the idea of another living being.

You would be amazed how those who cross over arrive there, how they are received by other spirits either with love or with hate. You would be amazed what moral struggles a soul has to go through there until it can go its way independently. No concealment, no pretense and dissimulation helps there. There the human being as spirit is only the imprint of his spiritual I, acquired here in this world, and not by deeds, but already by thoughts; because these were the originators of the deeds, and these also give the decisive factor in the spiritual world.

Every thought running fleetingly through your head or heart has been imprinted in your inner spirit man as an unchangeable imprint and will one day condition the outer spiritual covering of your soul man.

If men knew what they are doing when they either depart from this earth with resentment, or when those who remain behind curse those who have passed on, they would shudder at the consequences of such thoughts; for such thoughts are capable of causing torment upon torment - of a spiritual nature, of course - to those who have passed on, and of kindling in them the desire to receive with vengeance those who are still living.

Therefore be strict with your thoughts! You often call with a thought an army of like-minded, bad spirits of the other world near you, and while you believe that you merely follow these thoughts, it is these spirits who try to entangle you in their net, who strive to destroy your good qualities, in order to then bring the decision to an evil deed to maturity, which again has infinite consequences for you and other people and spirits.

This is expressed in the Gospel, where I said of the powerful evil spirit that was driven out of the sick or dumb man that he went about desolate and desolate, but then returned again with seven other spirits worse than himself.

This is the spiritual image of a person who has conquered a passion, who believes he has removed a devil from himself, but who carelessly gives himself over to these thoughts, his favorite ideas. This man nourishes a little flame, and as the mosquitoes, noticing the light from afar, all draw there, likewise this spiritual direction of thought is a light, which serves as a guide in the spirit world just for the spirits groping in the darkness. There they stream, begin their devilish game with intensified and united strength, until the afflicted man falls into their net and is lost for a long time here on earth and there in the hereafter for my kingdom.

The other world, the world of the invisible, is not as rosy as your priests imagine it to be; but it is also not as hellish as the imagination of certain religious fanatics would like to paint it for you. The whole painting consists in this: As man is spiritually constituted, so he also sees the spiritual world. So you also see the material world, whether over there or over there, that remains the same.

A refined, pure heart devoted to Me will see nothing of all this there, as it saw nothing of it here. It will see lost spirits there, as it saw lost people here, and will help everyone, as it did during its lifetime.

Bringing peace, the soul will see peace there; bringing hatred and pride, it will also experience the same from others there and exercise the same on others.

There is only one law that applies in My creation - it is the law of gravity, of attraction. The material is strengthened and maintained by this law; the spiritual likewise. The heavier, that is, the denser a body is, the greater is the force that holds its primal elements together; it is stone and is built on solid ground. The lighter the substances are, and the less their binding force is, the easier their elevation is possible. The more solidly the atoms are joined together, the less receptive they are to light and heat; the lighter they are, the more receptive they are to that which comes from above.

It is the same in the spirit world. The moral weight binds the spirits to matter; the lighter it is, the sooner they can move away from matter. In the former case the spirits are dark, in the latter the lighter.

So it is the dark spirits who want to revive and warm themselves by the light of others, because they themselves lack the warmth. Therefore, if they want to remain bad, they either try to pull others into their darkness or to escape it themselves.

This is the nature of the spiritual activity in the whole ether: Eternal fight next to rest, persecution and repulsion next to unification and loving companionship, because the spirits have to fulfill their spiritual process.

Time does not matter, because eternity is long. No one is forced; what he wants to be, that is he, or as Paul said, "As the tree falls, so it remains!"

Therefore, make every effort to gain so much strength already here that you can resist the temptations there and also immediately meet with better spirits, with whom, of course, there is no question of fight and seduction! Abstain from curses and imprecations, for the spirits offended in this way, inhibited in their progress, seek revenge! If they cannot do it here, they will certainly wait for you there, in order to repay you for what you have caused them in blind self-love.

In the Gospel I said, "He who is not with Me is against Me; he who does not gather with Me scatters!" Remember this. It means: There are only two ways - towards Me - and away from Me!

Therefore, blessed are those among you who will hear My words and also obey them! They will spare themselves many things in that world, which otherwise would have been an inevitable consequence of earthly actions.

I could still tell you a lot about that world. You already did a small look into it in the description of "the spiritual sun" (by Jakob Lorber). Indeed, this is only a silhouette of the great truth, but carefully thought out it is enough as a reminder, in order not to accuse me once, as if I had not let you do a look into that world, which will be once your stay and indeed the by far longer one. The extreme cases in which one or even more evil spirits have such a hold on a person that even his physical organism is also in their power are rare and often even allowed for good reasons. In order to heal such sick people possessed by evil spirits, it takes a strong-willed, religious person who knows Me and My power and also has the trust in Me that I will help him if he asks for it. Then help can be given in My name through prayer and laying on of hands, just as I did it during My earthly life; only it must always be thought of: If it is My holy will that it happens!

Here you have a small picture of the great spirit life, which I wanted to give you on this occasion from the Gospel. It is too important for you to know only what you see; you must also gradually learn to understand what exists outside the visible world, what has impressed its type upon it and constitutes the far greater and more important part of My kingdom.

I am spirit, you are spirit, and even matter will become spiritual. So to recognize this great cycle with all its stages, to survey it and to gain your own position in it, that is the task given to you. For its easier solution I spare no means to facilitate and shorten the inevitable way for you, so that you already master the most and heaviest here - and have to overcome only few and easier there. Amen.