

Acts Series

Lesson #113

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Dean Bible Ministries

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# The Acts of the Apostles “To the end of the earth” Acts 1:8

## Demon Possession and Demon Influence Acts 16:16–20





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0 40 80 160 km

**Acts 16:16, “Now it happened, as we went to prayer, that a certain slave girl possessed with a spirit of divination met us, who brought her masters much profit by fortune-telling.”**



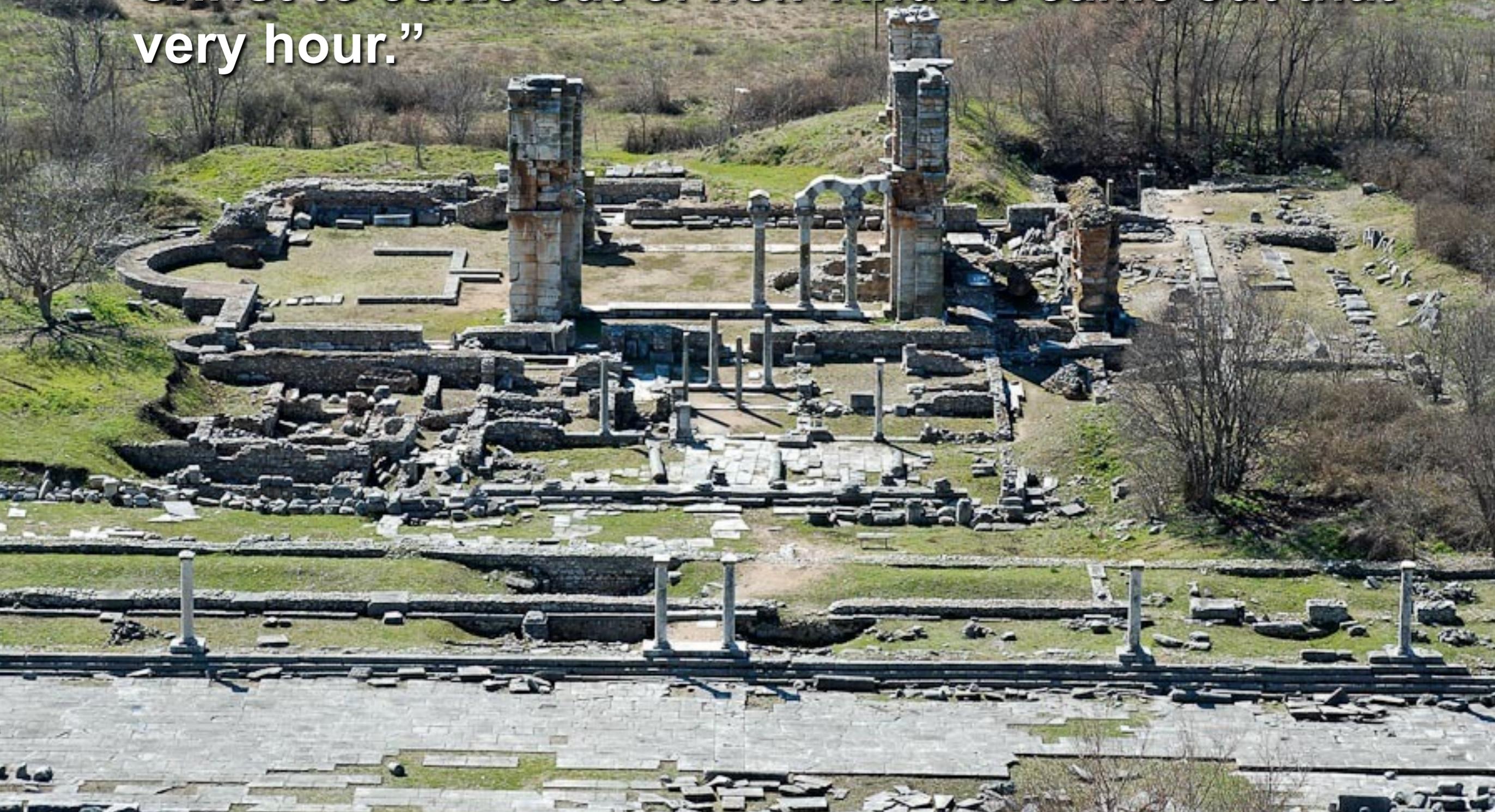
**Acts 16:16, “Now it happened, as we went to prayer, that a certain slave girl possessed with a spirit of divination met us, who brought her masters much profit by fortune-telling.”**

**Lit. “having [*echo*] a spirit, a *puthonos*”**

**Acts 16:17, “This girl followed Paul and us, and cried out, saying, ‘These men are the servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us the way of salvation.’ ”**



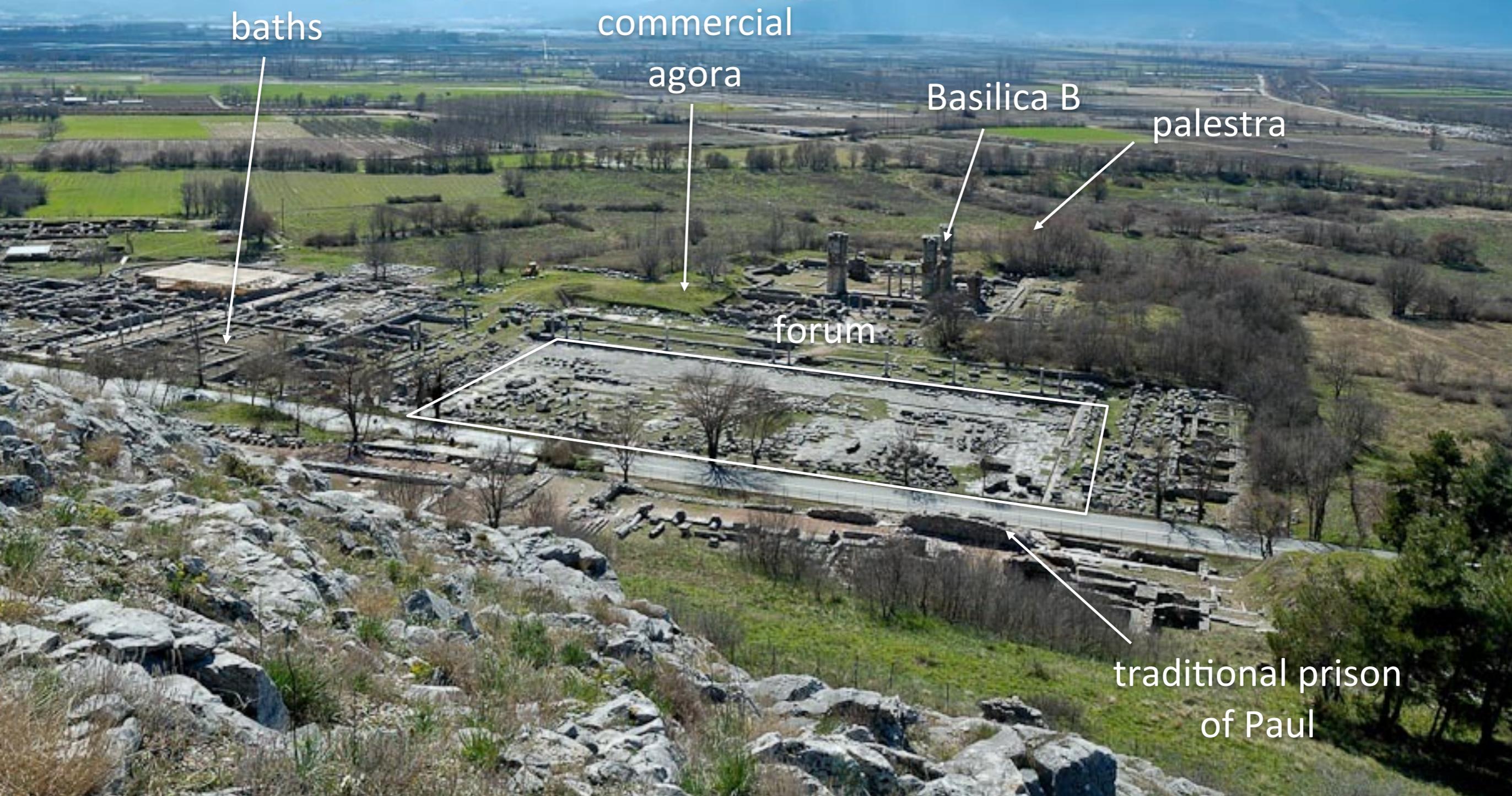
**Acts 16:18, “And this she did for many days. But Paul, greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, ‘I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.’ And he came out that very hour.”**



**Acts 16:19, “But when her masters saw that their hope of profit was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged *them* into the marketplace to the authorities.”**



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# **Activities Associated with Demonism**

**1. Idolatry, the worship of any god, from the worship of self, the worship of material things, to the worship of various deities including Allah and the god of Mormonism.**

**Ex. 20:3, “You shall have no other gods before Me.**

**Ex. 20:4, “You shall not make for yourself a carved image—any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth;**

**Ex. 20:5, “you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me,”**

**Rom. 1:25, “who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.”**

**1 Cor. 10:14, “Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry.”**

**1 Cor. 10:19, “What am I saying then? That an idol is anything, or what is offered to idols is anything?”**

**1 Cor. 10:20, “Rather, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice they sacrifice to demons and not to God, and I do not want you to have fellowship with demons.”**

**1 Cor. 10:21, “You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of the Lord’s table and of the table of demons.”**

**2. Therefore, any human thought system that is not related to the worship of the one true, living God, is in fact, the worship of demons and demon-influenced thought.**

**1 Sam. 15:23, “For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, He also has rejected you from being king.”**

**3. When God and his control of history is rejected, then idolatrous humans seek other avenues for control of their chaotic life. This may take a number of forms, but some forms are more overtly associated with the demonic. Among these are various forms of fortune-telling.**

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**Divination: The attempt to foresee or foretell future events in order to control the circumstances of one's life. Forms of divination include: astrology, palmistry, dowsing, tarot cards, reading horoscopes, and necromancy.**

**Ezek. 21:21, “For the king of Babylon stands at the parting of the road, at the fork of the two roads, to use divination: he shakes the arrows, he consults the images, he looks at the liver.”**

## **4. Scripture**

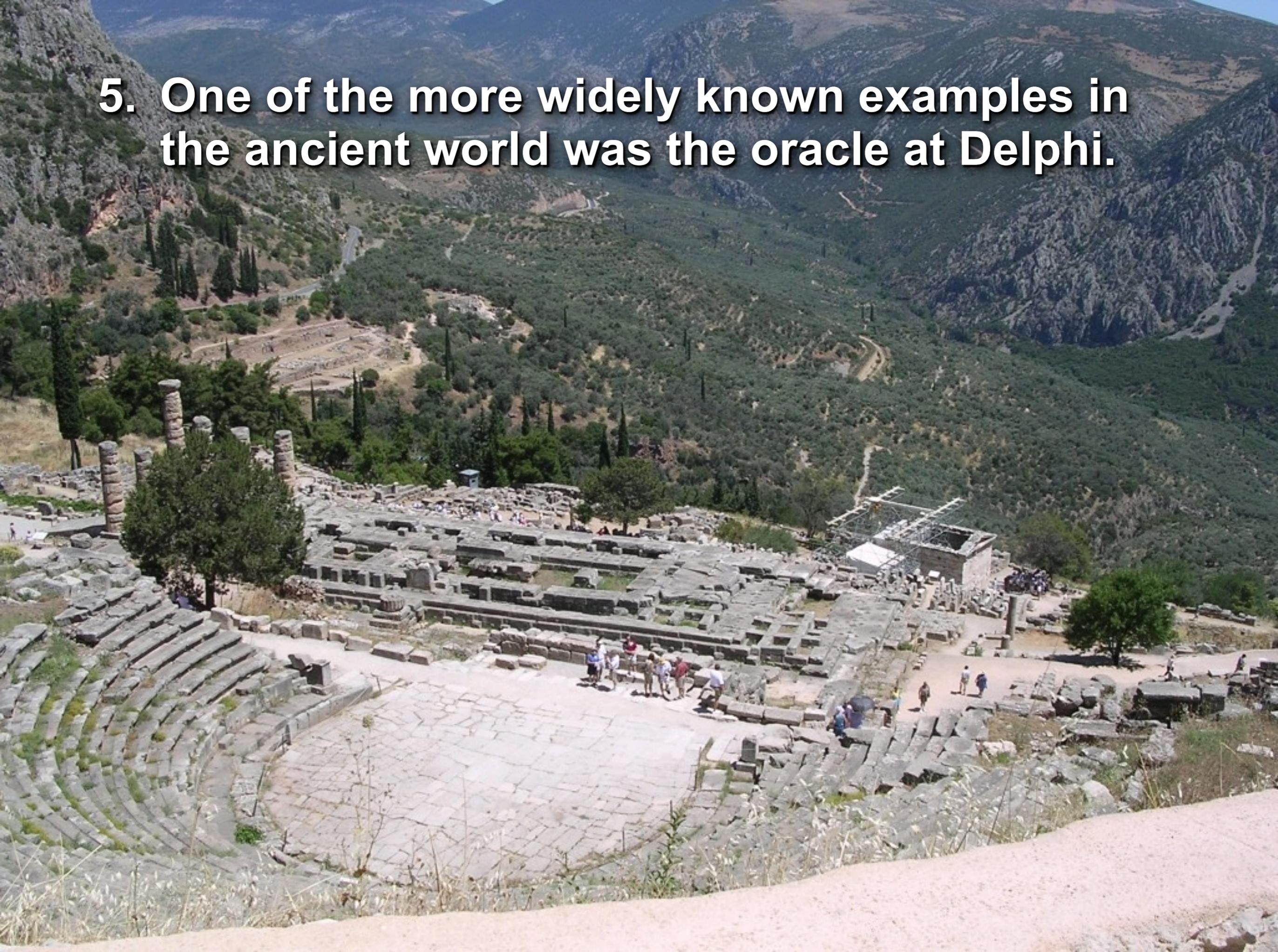
**Lev. 19:26, “You shall not eat anything with the blood, nor shall you practice divination or soothsaying.**

**Deut. 18:10, “There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, or one who practices witchcraft, or a soothsayer, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer,”**

**Lev. 19:31, “Give no regard to mediums and familiar spirits; do not seek after them, to be defiled by them: I am the LORD your God.”**

**Lev. 20:27, “ ‘A man or a woman who is a medium, or who has familiar spirits, shall surely be put to death; they shall stone them with stones. Their blood shall be upon them.’ ”**

**5. One of the more widely known examples in the ancient world was the oracle at Delphi.**



**“I can count the sands,  
and I can measure the  
ocean; I have ears for  
the silent, and know  
what the dumb man  
meaneth; Lo! On my  
sense there striketh the  
smell of a shell-covered  
tortoise boiling now on  
a fire, with the flesh of a  
lamb, in a cauldron,  
brass is the vessel  
below and brass the  
cover above it.”**



*Das Orakel zu Delphi.*

**Apollo killed the *pythonos* who controlled the oracle, or *sybil*, then later Apollo was said in some versions to inhabit or indwell the *pythonos*.**



**6. Another form of divination exposed in the Bible is that of necromancy, consulting the dead through mediums and witches.**

**Isa. 8:19, “And when they say to you, ‘Seek those who are mediums and wizards, who whisper and mutter,’ should not a people seek their God? Should they seek the dead on behalf of the living?”**

**Isa. 29:4, “You shall be brought down, You shall speak out of the ground; Your speech shall be low, out of the dust; Your voice shall be like a medium’s, out of the ground; And your speech shall whisper out of the dust.”**

## 7. Saul and the witch at En-Dor



**Oh, the road to En-Dor is the oldest road  
And the craziest road of all  
Straight it runs to the Witch's abode,  
As it did in the days of Saul,  
And nothing has changed of the sorrow in store  
For such as go down on the road to En-Dor!**

**~Rudyard Kipling**



Mt Gilboa

Ein  
Harod

En-dor





# **The Vocabulary of Demon Possession and Demon Influence**

ἐν πνεύματι ἀκαθάρτῳ *en pneumati akatharto* “with an unclean spirit” Mark 5:2

τὸ πνεῦμα τὸ ἀκάθαρτον *to pneuma to akatharton*, “unclean spirit” Mark 5:8, 13

δαιμονίζομαι *daimonizomai*; used to refer to the man with the “unclean spirit” in Mark 5:15–16, 18

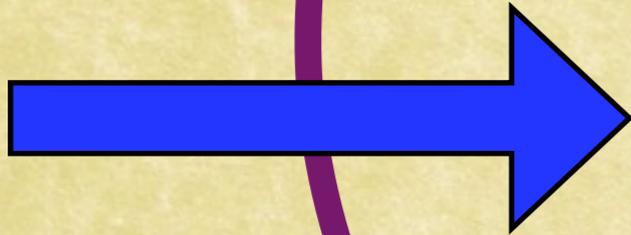
ἔχων δαιμόνια *echo daimonia*; Luke 8:27

**ἐξέρχομαι exerchomai, to come out from, get out,  
proceed out of**

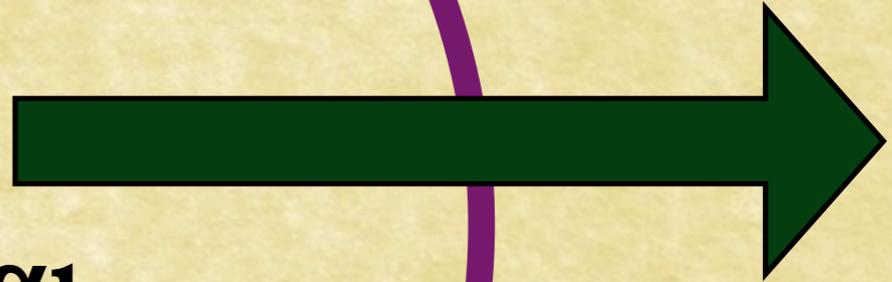
**εἰσέρχομαι eiserchomai, to enter into**

**ἐκβάλλω ekballo, to cast out**

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ἐξέρχομαι  
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**1 Sam. 16:23, “And so it was, whenever the spirit from God was upon Saul, that David would take a harp and play *it* with his hand. Then Saul would become refreshed and well, and the distressing spirit would depart from him.**

**1 Sam. 18:10, “And it happened on the next day that the distressing spirit from God came upon Saul, and he prophesied inside the house. So David played *music* with his hand, as at other times; but *there was* a spear in Saul’s hand.**

**1 Sam. 19:9, “Now the distressing spirit from the LORD came upon Saul as he sat in his house with his spear in his hand. And David was playing *music* with *his* hand.”**

**Matt. 25:41, “Then He will also say to those on the left hand, ‘Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels:’ ”**

**Rev. 12:9, “So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.”**

**Mark 5:2, “And when He had come out of the boat, immediately there met Him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit,”**

**ἐξέρχομαι exerchomai, to come out from, get out, proceed out of**

**ἐν πνεύματι ἀκαθάρτῳ *en pneumatī akatharto* “with an unclean spirit” Mark 5:2**

**Mark 5:6, “When he saw Jesus from afar, he ran and worshiped Him.”**

**Mark 5:8, “For He said to him, ‘Come out of the man, unclean spirit!’ ”**

**ἐξέρχομαι exerchomai, to come out from, get out, proceed out of**

**Mark 5:12, “So all the demons begged Him, saying, ‘Send us to the swine, that we may enter them.’**

**Mark 5:13, “And at once Jesus gave them permission. Then the unclean spirits went out and entered the swine (there were about two thousand); and the herd ran violently down the steep place into the sea, and drowned in the sea.”**

**ἐξέρχομαι exerchomai, to come out from, get out, proceed out of**

**εἰσέρχομαι eiserchomai, to enter into**

**Mark 5:15, “Then they came to Jesus, and saw the one who had been demon-possessed and had the legion, sitting and clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid.”**

**δαιμονίζομαι *daimonizomai*; used to refer to the man with the “unclean spirit” in Mark 5:15–16, 18**