



Books in Review

DEMONIZATION OF THE BELIEVER

An Unbiblical Teaching Exposed

by Gil Rugh

Sound Words, 55 pages/4 tapes, \$14.95

One of the more hotly debated topics in both Charismatic and Evangelical Christian camps today is: Can a believer be demonized? Dr. Gil Rugh says: No! In his four-tape series and accompanying 55-page book, Rugh systematically and methodically examines that question from the Bible while dissecting the experientially based, nonbiblical ideas of popular spiritual warfare experts Neil Anderson and C. Fred Dickason.

Rugh's teaching and writing have been missed by most but are a must for every Christian. His is material that needs to be studied in the light of so much paranoia and confusion today. The concise booklet, along with the four audio tapes, is one of the best inoculations against this false teaching that can be found.

In his book, Rugh cuts to the core of the issue in his seven chapters entitled: "Sin: Who Is to Blame?," "A Biblical Survey of Demonology," "Demon Possession and the Believer," "The Biblical Way of Dealing with Demons," "The Fallacy of Clinical Evidence in Spiritual Matters," "Ancestral Demons" and "Experience-Based Theology."

The tape series is a response to Neil Anderson's "Resolving Personal and Spiritual Conflicts Conference" which has gained the patronage of Evangelical churches across the nation.

Rugh's main point cannot be missed and that is that to depart from the biblical teaching regarding how a believer is sanctified is a frontal attack and a downright denial of the sufficiency of the work of Christ and the Scriptures. We do not need "experts" and "bondage breakers." We need good theology. That is what Gil Rugh gives us.

—GRF

THE CHRISTIAN'S GUIDE TO GUIDANCE

by Jay E. Adams

Timeless Texts, 97 pages, \$8.95

The question of guidance and knowing how to make right decisions in life can be a troubling one indeed. How can a believer know what is or what is not God's will for their life? It is a crucial issue that has given kindling to shepherding and abusive sects. It is also an issue to which a vast amount of misguided counsel has been offered — even from within mainline churches and from otherwise reputable Bible teachers.

Most Christians look to the Bible, prayer, counsel of others, circumstances, reason and peace as the reliable arbitrators for knowing and discerning God's will. And these six guidelines appear to be wise and safe factors in making Godly decisions in life — after all are we not to pray without ceasing and told in a multitude of counsel there is wisdom? Yet when it comes to the issue of guidance for the Christian, Jay Adams contends that five of the six elements mentioned above are *wrong!*

Adams demonstrates how Scripture is to be the sole and final source for a Christian's guidance. He sets forth to show how all of these other factors leads one to look for guidance in "all sorts of wrong places." Following those avenues which contain a human element, and which as such are undependable, "will land those who do so in more difficulties than they already had." His, then, is a battle cry similar to the Reformers centuries ago: *sola scriptura*. He brings the reader back to the understanding that experience is not the judge of the Bible, but the Bible is the judge of experience. Too often, knowingly or unknowingly, Christians get the "cart" (experience) before the "horse" (Scripture).

The book is brief and succinct. It will be, for most readers, a quick read. While Garry Friesen's definitive work on the subject (*Decision Making and the Will of God*) may be intimidating to the average Christian, Adams' publication will not be overwhelming. And, just perhaps, may whet the appetite of some to consider Friesen's 452-page volume.

Adams deals with the problems and provides the scriptural solutions. He names names and in doing so

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