

10 Demonic Spirits Behind Narcissism (Exposed by the Bible)

By System Import | Sermon | March 14, 2026

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There is a form of suffering so profound, so confusing, that it leaves its victims questioning their own sanity. It's the experience of being in a relationship—with a spouse, a parent, a pastor, or a friend—that is a dizzying vortex of charm and cruelty, of love-bombing and devaluation. One day you are their entire world, and the next, you are nothing. You are left feeling exhausted, empty, and hollow, as if your very life force has been drained from you. This is the experience of narcissistic abuse, and it is one of the most insidious and painful forms of human interaction. But today, we are going to pull back the curtain. We are going to look behind the psychological label and expose the spiritual roots. And before we dive in, if this message is already stirring something in you, hit the subscribe button and stay connected to God's Word daily, because what you are feeling is not your imagination. It is a spiritual battle.

The Bible does not use the modern word "narcissism," but it paints a vivid, terrifyingly accurate portrait of the behaviors, motivations, and spiritual forces that drive it. What our culture calls a "personality disorder," the Bible exposes as a "stronghold" of sin, built brick by brick with pride, deceit, and self-worship. These patterns of the flesh, when left unrepented, become an "open door," a "foothold" (as Paul warns in Ephesians 4:27) that invites demonic spirits to enter, to empower, and to entrench that behavior, making it nearly impossible to break. The narcissist is not just a difficult person; they are often a person in deep spiritual bondage, used by the enemy as a "vessel" to wound, silence, and shipwreck the faith of those around them.

The enemy's goal is to destroy the image of God, and his favorite way to do it is from the inside out, using a relationship as his delivery system. When you understand the spirits you are dealing with, you stop trying to "fix" or "please" the person and you start engaging in the real battle. This knowledge is not a weapon for you to accuse the person, but a light for you to discern the situation, find your freedom, and learn how to pray effectively. Today, we are exposing the 10 core demonic spirits that form the spiritual foundation of narcissism.

Number 1: The Foundation - The Spirit of Pride (Lucifer's Root)

Everything about narcissism begins and ends with pride. It is the original sin, the sin that turned Lucifer, the most beautiful archangel, into Satan, the adversary. Before there was sin in the universe, there was pride in Lucifer's heart. Look at his five "I will" statements in Isaiah 14:13-14: "I will ascend to heaven... I will raise my throne above the stars of God... I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly... I will ascend above the tops of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High." This is the blueprint for all narcissism. It is the spirit that rejects its created place and seeks

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to dethrone God and enthrone itself.

This spirit is the engine behind the narcissist's grandiose sense of self-importance. It is the voice that whispers, "You are better than others. You are special. You deserve to be worshipped. You are your own god, and you are the ultimate authority in your life." This is why a narcissist cannot be wrong. To admit fault is to admit that they are not God. To apologize is to bow their "throne" to another, which their spirit cannot tolerate. It's why they are so easily offended, so quick to "narcissistic injury," because any perceived slight is a challenge to their carefully constructed, false divinity.

The Bible calls this spirit "Leviathan" in Job 41, a creature so powerful and proud that he is "king over all the children of pride" (Job 41:34). It's described as a creature with impenetrable scales, who "beholds all high things." This is the spiritual "armor" that makes a true narcissist impervious to feedback, correction, or repentance. You cannot "talk" them into humility. This spirit of pride is the absolute, foundational stronghold that must be broken for any true healing to begin. Until this spirit is confronted—not by human argument, but by the power of the Holy Spirit—nothing else can be healed.

The antidote to this spirit is the mindset of Christ in Philippians 2, who, "being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant." The narcissist, driven by the spirit of pride, does the exact opposite: being in very nature a creature, they grasp at equality with God and make everyone else their servant. Understanding this root of pride is the first key to discerning the battle you are in. You are not just dealing with a big ego; you are dealing with a spirit that is at war with the very throne of God.

Number 2: The Core Tools - The Lying Spirit and The Spirit of Manipulation (Witchcraft)

Once the spirit of pride has laid the foundation of self-worship, it needs tools to control its environment and maintain its false reality. The two primary tools are deception and control.

First is the Lying Spirit. Jesus identified the source of this in John 8:44, calling Satan "a murderer from the beginning... he is a liar and the father of lies." The narcissist's native tongue is deception. They lie when it's necessary, they lie when it's unnecessary, and they lie until they themselves believe their own lies. They create a completely false narrative, a false self, a "mask" to present to the world. But their most powerful lying tactic is what we now call "gaslighting." Gaslighting is the serpent in the Garden of Eden whispering to Eve, "Did God really say...?" (Genesis 3:1). A lying spirit's goal is to make you doubt what you know to be true. It's to make you question your own

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memory, your own perception, and ultimately, your own sanity. The narcissist, empowered by this spirit, will deny things they just said, blame you for things they just did, and twist reality so methodically that you are left in a "fog" of confusion, thinking you are the crazy one. This is a deliberate demonic tactic to destabilize you and make you easier to control.

Second is the Spirit of Manipulation, which the Bible calls Witchcraft. This is a shocking connection, but it's biblically explicit. In 1 Samuel 15:23, the prophet Samuel declares, "For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry." Narcissism is the ultimate form of rebellion against God's order and stubbornness against His truth. This spirit of witchcraft is not about cauldrons and spells; it is about control. It is the human will, empowered by a demonic spirit, forcing its desired outcome upon another person, in defiance of God. The "Jezebel spirit" mentioned in Revelation 2:20 is the perfect illustration. It's not a gender-specific spirit, but a spirit of control that uses two primary tools: seduction ("she... deceives my servants") and intimidation (as the historical Jezebel did to Elijah). The narcissist, like a spiritual Jezebel, will pull you in with flattery, charm, and "love-bombing" (seduction). Then, the moment you resist their control or challenge their false self, they will switch instantly to intimidation, rage, the silent treatment, and threats (intimidation). This dizzying cycle of seduction and intimidation is a classic sign that you are dealing with a spirit of manipulation and control, and it is designed to break your will and make you completely subservient to theirs. If this message inspires you, don't forget to subscribe for more Bible insights every week.

Number 3: The Emotional Arsenal - The Spirit of Envy and The Spirit of Rage

The narcissist's inner world is not one of confidence, but of a deep, dark, and terrifying emptiness. They have no internal sense of self-worth. Therefore, they must get it from external sources (admiration, status, control). This makes their emotional state entirely dependent on others, and it gives rise to two of their most powerful and destructive weapons: envy and rage.

First is the Spirit of Envy. Envy is the original spirit that motivated Cain to murder Abel (Genesis 4). Why? Because "the LORD looked with favor on Abel and his offering, but on Cain and his offering he did not look with favor." Cain, in his pride, could not stand that his brother was blessed. Envy is not just "I want what you have." It is "I hate that you have it." The narcissist is consumed by a spirit of envy. They cannot genuinely celebrate your victories. Your promotion, your new relationship, your spiritual breakthrough, or even your simple joy is a threat to their superiority. It is a painful reminder of the goodness they do not possess.

The most vivid biblical portrait of this is King Saul and David. Saul (the narcissist) was fine with

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David when David was just his musician. But the moment the women sang, "Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands" (1 Samuel 18:7), the spirit of envy took root. The Bible says, "Saul was very angry... and from that time on Saul looked at David with suspicion." This "suspicion" was a tormenting, obsessive spirit of envy that poisoned his mind. This is why when you are close to a narcissist, you will subconsciously start to "dim your own light." You will stop sharing your good news with them because you know, on a spiritual level, that your light hurts them and will be met with a cold response, a subtle put-down, or a change of subject.

When this envy is triggered, it gives birth to its twin: the Spirit of Rage. This is "narcissistic rage." It is the spear that Saul, in his envious madness, suddenly threw at David. This is not normal human anger. It is a terrifying, volcanic, and utterly disproportionate explosion of rage that comes from a "narcissistic injury"—a moment where their false self has been challenged or their superiority questioned. It is a spirit of murder (as Jesus defined it in Matthew 5, anger in the heart). This rage is a tool of pure intimidation. It is designed to silence you, to punish you for not "playing the game," and to terrify you into submission. When you have been the target of this spirit, you live in constant fear, walking on eggshells, desperate to prevent the next explosion.

Number 4: The Social Tactics - The Spirit of Division and The Spirit of Accusation

A narcissist cannot operate in a healthy, transparent community. Their greatest fear is exposure. Therefore, they must employ demonic tactics to control the "narrative" and isolate their victims.

First is the Spirit of Division. The narcissist is a master of "triangulation." They create discord between other people and position themselves as the "savior" in the middle. The ultimate biblical example is Absalom, David's son (2 Samuel 15). Absalom would stand at the city gate and intercept people coming to his father, the king. He would listen to their problems and say, "Look, your claims are valid, but the king has no one to hear you... If only I were king, I would give you justice!" The Bible says, "In this way Absalom stole the hearts of the people of Israel." This is a demonic tactic. The narcissist in a church, family, or workplace will do this exact thing. They will subtly sow seeds of discord, criticize the leadership (the pastor, the boss, the other parent), and present themselves as the only one who truly understands you, the only one who is truly on your side. Their goal is to divide you from your support system (your church, your friends, your family) so that you are isolated and completely dependent on them.

When this isolation is complete, they are free to use their second tactic: the Spirit of Accusation. This is the very name of Satan. Revelation 12:10 calls him "the accuser of our brethren, who accuses them before our God day and night." This is the narcissist's primary defense mechanism:

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projection. They take all of their own sin, their own darkness, their own lies, and they project it onto you. The lying narcissist will call you a liar. The unfaithful narcissist will accuse you of being unfaithful. The manipulative narcissist will call you the manipulator. They will accuse you of the very things they are doing. This is a demonic strategy designed to make you so busy defending yourself from false accusations that you never have the strength to expose their true behavior. They are "the accuser," and they will relentlessly attack your character, your sanity, and your reputation to everyone who will listen (especially the people they just isolated you from), until you look like the problem and they look like the victim. If this message inspires you, don't forget to subscribe for more Bible insights every week.

Number 5: The Hidden Drivers - The Spirit of Fear and The Spirit of Greed (Exploitation)

We've seen the outward weapons of the narcissist. Now we must look at the hidden drivers behind the mask. The grand, proud, rage-filled shell is built around a hollow, terrified core.

First is the Spirit of Fear. This may seem counter-intuitive, but it is essential. 2 Timothy 1:7 says, "For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind." The narcissist operates under a tormenting, demonic spirit of fear. It is the deep, primal fear of being worthless. The fear of being abandoned. The fear of being exposed as the fraud they secretly know they are. This fear is the engine for their entire personality. It is why they so desperately need "narcissistic supply" (admiration, praise, attention) from others. This "supply" is like a drug that temporarily silences the spirit of fear. This is why the "discard" phase is so brutal. The moment you stop admiring them or start questioning them, you no longer feed them—you trigger their deepest fear. And they must destroy you for it. Their grandiosity is not confidence; it is a desperate, fear-based defense against a bottomless pit of worthlessness.

This fear leads directly to the next spirit: the Spirit of Greed, or Exploitation. Jesus called this "Mammon" (Matthew 6:24), the spirit that makes you serve money and use people. Because the narcissist is fundamentally empty and driven by fear, they do not see other people as souls to be loved; they see them as objects to be used. You are a resource. You are a source of supply. You are an "appliance." This is the spirit of greed. It asks of everyone it meets, "What can you do for me? How can you serve me? How can you make me look good? How can you feed my need?"

This is why the narcissist is so exploitative. They will use your money, your talents, your body, your empathy, and your kindness until you are completely drained. They are a "black hole" of need. This spirit of greed is why they have no empathy. You cannot have empathy for an "object." You don't feel empathy for your toaster; you just get angry when it stops giving you toast. In the same way,

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the narcissist doesn't feel empathy for you; they just feel rage when you stop giving them the "supply" they crave. They are driven by a spirit of fear and a spirit of greed, reducing all human relationships to a single, selfish transaction.

Number 6: The Ultimate Goal - The Spirit of Antichrist (Self-Worship)

We have arrived at the final, and most terrifying, spirit. All the other spirits—pride, lying, manipulation, envy, rage, division, accusation, fear, and greed—are just servants to this one, ultimate goal. This is the Spirit of Antichrist.

When we hear "antichrist," we think of a future world leader. But the Apostle John tells us, "Even now many antichrists have come... they went out from us" (1 John 2:18-19). An antichrist is any spirit that denies the Lordship of Jesus Christ. 1 John 4:3 says every spirit that does not confess Jesus has come in the flesh "is the spirit of the antichrist." What does this mean? It's not just about a theological statement. It is a spirit that denies God's right to the throne and puts something else there. In this case, it puts the self on the throne.

The narcissist is the "antichrist" of their own small world. The ultimate goal of this demonic stronghold is worship. It wants to receive the allegiance, the service, the sacrifice, and the adoration that belongs only to God. The narcissist's family, or church, or workplace becomes a cult of personality, and they are the "cult leader." They demand your total allegiance. This is why a narcissistic partner will often try to "come between" you and God. They will get jealous of your time in prayer. They will mock your faith. They will demand you choose them over a church service. Why? Because the spirit of antichrist cannot stand a rival for the worship of its "supply." It must be the god of your life.

This is exactly what Paul describes in 2 Thessalonians 2:4 concerning the man of lawlessness: "...he opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, displaying himself as being God." This is a perfect description of the narcissistic stronghold. The "temple of God" is the human heart, and the narcissist, empowered by this spirit, has taken his seat on the throne of his own heart and demands that everyone around him worship him as if he is God. This is the ultimate, blasphemous goal of the spirits behind narcissism.

Number 7: The Path to Freedom - Hope, Boundaries, and Deliverance

After this dark and heavy exposition, where is the hope? The good news is that "the reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil" (1 John 3:8). Every one of these spirits

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has been defeated, disarmed, and "made a public spectacle of" at the cross (Colossians 2:15). Jesus has all authority, and He offers freedom. But that freedom comes in two different paths.

Path 1: Freedom for the Victim. If you are in a relationship with a person operating in this, your path to freedom begins with truth.

See the Truth: You must first accept the truth. Stop making excuses for them. Stop "gaslighting" yourself. Call the abuse what it is: "This is not love. This is pride. This is manipulation. This is sin." The truth will set you free (John 8:32).

Set Boundaries: Boundaries are the antidote to control. A boundary is not a wall to punish them; it is a "no trespassing" sign to protect you. It is you saying, "You no longer have the right to abuse me. My mind, my body, and my soul belong to God." This may mean limiting contact, or in many cases, it may mean "coming out from among them and being separate" (2 Corinthians 6:17).

Break the Yokes: You must pray and spiritually break the unhealthy "soul ties" that have formed through this relationship. Forgive them—not because they deserve it, but so you can be free from the poison of bitterness. Forgiveness is the key that unlocks your prison cell.

Heal and Restore: You must allow the Holy Spirit to come into the wounded, empty places in your heart and heal them. He is the only one who can restore your identity, fill you with His love, and silence the "tapes" of the accuser's voice in your head.

Path 2: Freedom for the Narcissist. Is there hope for the person trapped in this stronghold? Yes. With God, nothing is impossible. But it is the hardest of all paths. A person cannot be "healed" from narcissism. They must be raised from the dead. Their false self must be crucified with Christ, and they must be born again.

This path requires something that is the complete opposite of their entire being: Humility. It requires a brutal and total repentance.

They must have a "bottoming out" moment where they, like the "chief of sinners" Paul, see their pride and self-worship for the monstrous sin it is.

They must confess their lies and manipulation to God and to those they have wounded (the antidote to the lying spirit).

They must abdicate the throne of their heart and invite Jesus Christ to rule (the antidote to the spirit of antichrist). This is not "going to therapy to learn empathy." This is a radical, supernatural

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deliverance that only God can do. We must pray for it, but we cannot wait for it. Your freedom cannot be dependent on their repentance. Your journey to healing must start today.

Conclusion

We have walked through the dark gallery of the enemy's stronghold, and we have put a name to the invisible forces behind narcissism. We began with the foundation, the Spirit of Pride, the "I will" of Lucifer that seeks to be God. We exposed its tools: the Lying Spirit that creates a false reality and the Spirit of Manipulation (Witchcraft) that uses seduction and intimidation to control.

We felt the fire of its emotional weapons: the Spirit of Envy (like Cain and Saul) that hates your light, and the Spirit of Rage that explodes to punish you. We uncovered its social tactics: the Spirit of Division (like Absalom) that isolates you from help, and the Spirit of Accusation that projects its own sin onto you.

We then looked deep inside, at the hidden drivers: the tormenting Spirit of Fear (of being worthless) and the consuming Spirit of Greed that turns people into objects. And finally, we saw the ultimate, blasphemous goal of it all: the Spirit of Antichrist, the spirit of self-worship that demands to be the god of your life.

This is not just a personality flaw. It is a spiritual strategy from the pit of hell to steal worship from God, to kill the identity of His children, and to destroy their witness. But the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. Jesus Christ came to destroy these works. For those of you who have been wounded, there is profound healing and freedom available in His name. For those trapped in this sin, there is a narrow, difficult, but possible path to freedom through the cross. The first step is to see the truth. Do not be afraid of it. Let it set you free.

Before you go, make sure to subscribe, like this video, and share it with someone who needs encouragement today. And join us next time as we uncover another powerful truth from God's Word.