

Jesus Created “Deviled Ham”

By: Dan Jenkins

I remember as a child that we ate lots of Spam and Deviled Ham. I cannot understand why, but obviously many still like the taste. Though I did not understand why that ham had that name, I ate it. I like deviled eggs and devil’s food cake, so I learned to eat Deviled Ham.

Read the rest of this article to see why it can be said that it was Jesus who made the first “deviled ham.” When the Messiah came, He had to manifest His omnipotence, His power over everything. He showed His power over nature by turning water into wine, stilling the tempest and multiplying loaves and fishes. He showed His power over disease and immediately cured every diseased person ever brought to Him.

However, there had to be a manifestation of His power over Satan who used death as a way of creating great fear of death and the unknown. Jesus showed His power over death and through His death destroyed Satan who seemed to have the power of death. He delivered mankind from the bondage of Satan’s power ([Heb. 2:14-15](#)).

In the first century, there were many who were demon-possessed. While these evil spirits were mentioned rarely in the Old Testament, they were rampant when Jesus came. Think of how often, as you read the New Testament, you see Him casting out demons. It was not just the sick that were cured by Him, but numberless demon-

possessed people were brought to Him and He cured them all. Every instance of Him doing this was a visual manifestation of His power over Satan and his power.

There was one occasion when Jesus confronted a man who had a legion of demons inside of him. (This incident is recorded in Matthew 8, Mark 5 and Luke 8). The name of the man was Legion, a military term indicating at least 6,000 soldiers. The demons knew their destiny was to be sent into the abyss (the Greek word here is sometimes translated “deep,” and this abyss is the same word translated “bottomless pit” in Revelation). They begged Jesus to postpone that time ([Matt. 8:29](#)) and instead cast them into a herd of swine.

This request was granted by Jesus and the legion of demons in this one man left the man and entered the herd of about 2,000 swine. You know what swine are. They are hogs which give us ham. The demons entered the swine, the hogs, the ham, and so it was Jesus who made deviled ham!

Demon possession is mentioned in Zechariah 13 which foretold that when the Messiah came as a fountain to remove sin, two other things would end. There would no longer be prophets to reveal the Testaments and there would no longer be demon possession. His work ended both of these!

What Does the Bible Say About Speaking in Tongues?

By: Selected

The supernatural ability of speaking in tongues was one of the miraculous, spiritual gifts that the Holy Spirit gave to early Christians, along with gifts such as healing, working miracles, prophesying, casting out demons, taking up serpents, drinking deadly poisons, etc. (1 Cor. 12:7-11; Mark 16:17-18). What can we know from the Bible about speaking in tongues?

Tongues were actual, known, spoken languages in the first century. Upon the first occasion when tongues were spoken in the New Testament, God defined them. When the apostles “began to speak with other tongues” (Acts 2:4), “everyone heard them speak in his own language” (2:6; cf. 2:11)—the “language in which [they] were born” (2:8). Tongues were real, comprehensible, native languages spoken by those who had never studied them.

Tongues had a defined purpose of converting unbelievers. The Holy Spirit revealed that “tongues are for a sign...to unbelievers” (1 Cor. 14:22). When early Christians “went out and preached everywhere,” the Lord was “working with them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs” (Mark 16:20; cf. Heb. 2:3-4). Unbelievers could be convinced of the validity of the message preached when they heard it proclaimed in a language not native to the speaker.

Tongues were designed by God to have a limited duration and to cease in the first century. The Spirit affirmed, “tongues...will cease...when that which is perfect has come” (1 Cor. 13:8-10). Early Christians had “part” of divine revelation while the New Testament was still being written. When the completed (i.e., perfect) revelation of Christ’s New Testament had come (John 16:13; 2 Pet. 1:3; Jude 3), the

miraculous “part” (spiritual gifts) would be “done away” (1 Cor. 13:10).

If the Holy Spirit is still empowering Christians to speak in tongues today, then such would be (1) real, known languages (not unintelligible sounds), (2) controlled with only two or three taking turns (1 Cor. 14:27-32), (3) imparted only by the hands of a living apostle (Acts 8:14-19; 19:6), and (4) only one of all other miraculous powers still occurring, including healing, working miracles, casting out demons, taking up serpents, drinking deadly poisons, raising the dead. Most of all, if the Holy Spirit is still empowering Christians to speak in tongues today, then such would unequivocally confirm that we do not have the completed revelation of God, which Scripture insists that we do (2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2 Pet. 1:3; Jude 3).

Like all other miraculous gifts, tongue-speaking fulfilled its God-given purpose of confirming the spoken word, which we have in written, completed form today. According to the Bible, the gift of tongues ceased in the first century.



Upcoming Events

TONIGHT: Annual Chili Cook-off after evening service. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin in the hallway.

February 20-22, 2026: Midtown's Youth Winter Retreat at Peach Valley AIM Camp for 6th –12th grade. Flyers and schedule are in the foyer in the hallway. It is also available on our website under Files.

Area events:

Area events/details are posted on the bulletin board in the hallway. Please check them out.

Prayer List

Prayer Requests:

Veronica Serenil who had a biopsy done and is awaiting test results.

Craig Dolan who responded to the invitation last week.

Jeff Cannady who had foot surgery.

Eddie Serenil who was in the hospital recently. Doctors will be deciding if he will need his heart catheter redone.

Gina Gawlik who is on hospice care. She is Veronica Serenil's daughter's mother-in-law.

Members

Jeff Cannady and Veronica Serenil.

Donations Needed for our Youth Winter Retreat!

If you would like to make a monetary donation to help with the expenses of the Youth Winter Retreat we are hosting, please see Doug or Kasi Jobes.

Service Roster

Week of February 15, 2026

Sunday Morning

Scripture Reading..... Will Burleson
Song Leader..... Kirk FitzSimmons

Opening Prayer..... Mark FitzSimmons
Closing Prayer..... Ken Dorries

Lord's Supper & Offering

Bread..... Bryant Siegel
Cup..... Lupe Escojido
Offering..... Benny Horton
Assist..... Caleb Lehtinen
Assist..... Kanin Jacobs
Assist..... Steve Randle

Sunday Evening

Song Leader..... Randy D'Herde

Opening Prayer..... Bryant Siegel
Closing Prayer..... Desmon Flonnory

Lord's Supper & Offering.....Billy York/
Steve Randle

Wednesday Evening

Adult Class.....Cody McCoy
Song Leader.....Jack Jobes
Devotional.....James Cammock

Other

Prepare Communion for Feb.....

Congregational News This Week

Birthdays

Kevin Sheeran.....Feb. 18
Barbie Dolan.....Feb. 18
Virginia Escojido.....Feb. 21

If you have any prayer requests, upcoming events to be announced, or updates/corrections please contact our secretary, Nina Siegel, at (361) 573-0030 or email office.midtownchurch@gmail.com

Our Elders

Mark FitzSimmons
Ron White

Our Deacons

James Cammock—Evangelism
Lupe Escojido— Benevolence
Doug Jobes—Safety, Men’s Encouragement &
Winter Youth Retreat
Kevin Sheeran—Worship Organization and
Communication
Bryant Siegel—Education and Finance

Our Minister

Cody McCoy

Weekly Reading

And God is able to make all grace abound toward
you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all
things, may have an abundance for every good.
2 Corinthians 9:8

Service Times

Sunday Morning Bible Class.....9:00 A.M.
Sunday Morning Worship.....10:00 A.M.
Sunday Evening Worship.....5:00 P.M.
Wednesday Bible Class.....7:00 P.M.

Attendance Records

Week of February 8, 2026

A.M. Bible Class.....63
A.M. Worship.....107
P.M. Worship.....61
Wednesday Worship.....59

*Financial information is located on the bulletin
board in the hallway.*

Supported Works

Southwest School of Bible Studies

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