

## SATANIC REVIVAL



**TEXT:** 1 John 4:1 Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. 2 Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: 3 And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of anti-christ, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world. 4 Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world. 5 They are of the world: therefore speak they of the world, and the world heareth them. 6 We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.

**INTRO.:** A. We are in the midst of a revival, but it is not of God. It is super-natural, has fiery evangelists, *uses* the Bible, speaks of holy living, offers communion, meets in church buildings (mega churches) and uses mass media and technology, but is not of God.

B. Just before the return of Christ we are told in the Word to expect a resurgence of demonic and Satanic activity. The drug culture, rock music, demon worship, tongues, et.al. But because Satan is an expert counterfeiter and knows he could never completely fool believers with such outrageous tactics, he must appeal to the "religious" crowd. The counterfeit must look and sound close to the original thing or it will be worthless. It substitutes experience for doctrine, "love" for the Word, and subs unscriptural definitions for Biblical terminology (e.g. Calvinism, Charismatic experiences, mass mind molding and lighting, fireworks and high tech presentations, and new Bible versions). It is personality and money driven (Osteen, T.D. Jakes, Creflo Dollar, Pat Boone, Benny Hinn, etc.)

### I. SATAN'S COUNTERFIT EVANGELISTS:

**2 Cor. 11:13-15** For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. 14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. 15 Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.

#### A. Their Identification:

##### 1. "False Apostles" v. 13a

**NOTE:** In Paul's day men were claiming to be Apostles and even wrote spurious "Gospels" and "epistles" disrupting the churches w/their aberration's and distortions of sound doctrine (the measuring stick for all true men & mvmts. of God).

##### 2. "Deceitful Workers": v.13b

- a. They not only believed and taught false doctrine (*"deceitful"*).
- b.** But were engaged in active "ministries" for Satan (*"workers"*).

##### 3. "Apostles of Christ": v.13c

- a. Note that *they* did the "transforming", not Christ.
- b. A "new leaf" and a "new life" are not the same!

**NOTE:** The test of genuine salvation is the "new creature". If the experience is not life changing and did not affect the dress, habits, life-style, et.al. of the "convert", it was SATANIC REVIVAL, not Bible conversion.

#### 4. Satanic "Ministers">: v.14a

- a. Yet they appear as "*ministers of righteousness*".
- b. The Lord warns us that this is to be expected by mature believers: "*it is no great thing*"!!!

**NOTE:** Paul was writing to one of them most carnal of churches: Corinth! Carnality always destroys spiritual discernment. The believer studying the Word, praying and working for the Lord is in a position of sharpened spiritual discernment.

#### B. Their Condemnation: v.14b "*according to their works*"

**NOTE:** They may be basking in fame and popularity and wealth now, but the clock is ticking!

### II. SATAN'S COUNTERFIT DOCTRINE:

**1Tim. 4:1** *Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; 2 Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron; 3 Forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth.*

- A. When? "*the latter times*" (NOW!)
- B. What? Departure from "*the faith*"

**NOTE:** The phrase "*the faith*" is used 44 times in the N.T. and identifies that body of truth which constitutes "*sound doctrine*" cf. v.6: "*good doctrine*"

1. "*seducing spirits*" (spiritual adultery)
2. "*doctrines of devils*" (doctrinal deviation)

**NOTE:** Sound doctrine is what always binds believers, but false doctrine binds unbelievers and weak Christians. Doctrinal deviation must always be subtle. The terminology must always "sound" Christian and the Bible (versions) will be used and abused.

The King James Bible is too strong for the current "Satanic Revival" so it is always "*better and more accurate*" and "*the Hebrew and Greek say...*" It is interesting that all these new versions stem from the same CORRUPT MSS!

### III. SATAN'S COUNTERFIT COMMUNION TABLE:

**1Co 10:21** *Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils.*

#### A. Communion Speaks of Fellowship:

1. Our fellowship must always be around sound doctrine.
2. Our fellowship must always be around THE FAITH.
3. Our fellowship must always be around Christ's shed blood.

**NOTE:** We cannot decide we are going to disregard doctrine for the sake of fellowship. God's Word commands us to break fellowship even with "brethren" who err, who are lazy, who sow seeds of discord, who pervert sound doctrine, who are engaged in immoral practices.

#### B. Communion Deals with Togetherness: Amos 3:3

**ILLUS.:** Satan, like our Lord, desires to unite with his people. The Lord does this on the basis of His blood and doctrine WITHIN the local assembly. Beware of anything not connected with, supported by, and controlled by, the local church!!

Satan separates through "radio pastors" TV "ministries" the printed page (Watchtower, etc.) just like the Lord, but apart from the local church and sound doctrine through pastors/teachers.

### III. SATAN'S COUNTERFIT RIGHTEOUSNESS:

**Matt. 23:14-29** (The 8 "WOES" Jesus pronounced against the Satanic Revival of His day for seemingly good things: long prayers v.14, evangelism v.15, calling on the Lord to witness and oath vv.16-22, tithing v.23, keeping vessels clean vv.25,26, and decorating the tombs of the prophets, vv. 29,30)

#### A. Satanic Righteousness is Legalism! vv.27,28

1. Nothing wrong with being righteous on the outside IF it matches something on the inside.
2. Nothing wrong with the "don't's" of the Christian life if they are testifying of an inward change.

B. Satanic righteousness is Outwardly Appealing: vv. 25,26

1. This is "Operation Smokescreen"
2. This is "Operation Confusion"

**CONCL.:** You may ask "How do I know the genuine from the counterfeit?" Only one answer: GOD'S WORD! Not emotions, not "love", not piety, not size, not "success", not even strong sermons, beautiful prayers or glowing testimonies or great personalities,

Are you being taken in by the Satanic Revival? Are you truly "born-again" or have you possibly accepted the devil's substitute?