

## ***Allegiance to Jesus: Resisting the False Justice Movement (Revelation 17)***

This session is titled, “Allegiance to Jesus: Resisting the False Justice Movement.” The Spirit is speaking about this subject. Beloved, there is a false justice movement that is emerging in the earth in this very hour. It will be eclipsed by a far more dangerous movement, in a few years from now, called the harlot Babylon, or the harlot religion. There is a worldwide false church that is already in the making.

Revelation 17 lays it out with clarity with many details about it, but in these early days in 2010, already we can see across the whole earth the stirrings of this movement. Notice that there are false forerunners—I am using that in a negative sense. They are counterfeit forerunners who are preparing for one of the most evil, well the most evil religion, in history that will prepare the way for Antichrist worship afterwards. I know that is a little bit hard to follow. All of that— maybe it is a new idea—but we have it in the notes. By the way, we have gone through six sessions. There is no way you can hear these; you know it is too much at one time to go through, so I want to encourage you to get these teachings, and go through them again.

We will have them all on the internet free. You can watch them video, or audio. We will have the transcriptions will be on the internet really soon, if you want to go through this. Again, our copyright is the right to copy. Whatever you like, take it, make your own documents, your own Bible teachings, put your name on them, and run with them, but do not take this three or four, this four day conference here in this One Thing Conference 2009, and say, “Okay, I got it.” No. All we are doing is hinting. We are only pointing to the path of areas you need to be focusing on, and studying. It will take you months, and even years to go deep on these subjects; so, do not walk away from here saying, “It is too much.” Of course, you cannot get it sitting in two long sessions every afternoon. It is too much information, but we have it all recorded for you, so you can have it on the internet. You can take your time in your leisure, and develop it little by little. But there is a false justice movement emerging in the earth.

## **THE FALLING AWAY AT THE END OF THE AGE**

The reason it is deceptive is because they are using the word “justice.” They are using the word “compassion.” The devil knows how to use the word “justice” and “compassion” very cleverly.

There is a harlot religion, which will be an official worldwide religion. They will not call it the harlot religion. That is Jesus’ name. They will call it something like the worldwide benefit of unified people in peace, or some crazy name like that. They will call it “wow, wow, wow human beings dot com,” something like that, but Jesus says that it does not matter what they call it. It does not matter how they dress it up. It does not matter what gift wrapping they put that box is filled with poison snakes.

So every time somebody says “justice, tolerance, compassion;” again, do not be so open-minded that your brains fall out. See if it is in the Word of God, if it lines up with what Jesus said, it is not enough to feed the poor. We have to feed the poor on Jesus’ terms. It is not enough to help people. The devil will help people in order to seduce them into his prison.

## **JESUS’ WAY ON HIS TERMS IN ALLEGIANCE**

Helping people is not enough, helping people in Jesus’ way on His terms in allegiance. I do not mean we have to say, “Jesus, Jesus, Jesus every time we give somebody a cup of cold water, but we are doing it for the Gospel’s sake.” We are doing it to introduce them to the truth. I mean we want to love them as an act of itself, but we are people with allegiance to Jesus doing works of justice because we love people, but we do want to take the opportunity to lead them to truth.

The devil’s people will be doing acts of justice, and acts of compassion. The devil’s movement will be humanitarian. Trust me it will be humanitarian, but it is a trap. It is to lead people away from Jesus, to seduce them with noble ideas of the dignity of their cause so that they are alert, and their guard is down, so they walk into deception.

The Spirit is calling the Church to be fiercely loyal. I mean we love Jesus. We are so bold. I do not mean just me. I am talking about the end-time Church worldwide. We love this Man, fully God, fully Man. We do not want anything except on His terms in His way, according to His agenda. In Revelation 17, the most significant end-time prophecy I mean is a most significant one. It is not the most, but it is a very, very significant one because it gives us insight into the false justice movement.

Paul prophesied as did many in the Bible of a great falling away in the end of the age. That is why this subject is so essential. Many people will fall away by being deceived into the false justice movement. They will begin to distance themselves from the critical crucial truths about Jesus. I am watching it happen right now all across America. Young people fiery for Jesus, a year or two or three ago, now they are in justice movements, and they are saying well you do not want to be so dogmatic. You do not want to be sure I mean who can know for sure all of that is rubbish. We can know for sure. We know what the truth is. We want to be tender. We want to be humble, but we do not want a humility that is a clumsy, clutter, humility that is not humility at all. All it is self-promotion with a man-pleasing spirit.

The humility we want is tender, but it is clear, it is bold, and we love the people so much we will tell them the truth. Because we know the air will bring them into the seduction, and deception of demons. If you truly love, speak the truth. Speak it tenderly, but speak it. Do not have a doctrine of love that is silent when the controversial issues come up. There is timing.

There is a right spirit. There is a right approach, but we are lovers of the truth, and we are lovers of the Man Jesus in all of our outreaches because the devil is already raising up justice movements that are not so concerned about how Jesus fits in the movement. We are very concerned about how He fits in the movement. Paul is prophesying, and other biblical writers of a falling away in the end of the age. That is why this subject is so essential.

### **THE FALLING AWAY AND THE REVEALING OF THE ANTICHRIST**

1Timothy 4:1-3: “Now, the Spirit expressly says that in the latter days, some will depart from the faith.” Beloved Paul said the Holy Spirit “expressly says.” In other words, he was putting a double emphasis. He says, “this is a prophecy, but I mean the Spirit was really energetic. Tell the people Paul, tell them. In the latter days, some will fall away. I do not believe the majority will fall away, but I believe a couple hundred million will fall away. I do not know the number. I do not believe the Spirit would be this urgent about it, if there were a few folks here, or there. I believe it is going to be a massive, not the majority, but I believe it will be tens of millions, probably hundreds of millions, but on the other side there is coming the greatest harvest in human history. A billion new ones are coming in, and the new ones will come in, by those that are preaching the full Gospel that is in the Word of God, and they will come in with an allegiance to Jesus.

2 Thessalonians 2:3: Look at this; these are two of the main signs of the times, of the end times. Paul's two events or trends that reveal, events, and trends that reveal the end-time: the generation the Lord returns is right here in (2 Thes. 2:3). He says in 2 Thessalonians 2:3: "Let no one deceive you." The day meaning the second coming, it will not come until two things happen: the falling away comes, and the Antichrist is revealed. Do not let anybody deceive you. Jesus is not coming any minute. He is not coming until the apostasy, the falling away happens.

The Antichrist is revealed on the planet, and in a way that is obvious; we will all know who he is. I do not care who he is now. People come to me. I think I know who he is. I say, "I am totally disinterested." He is revealed in a way that the Bible says then I care when he is revealed, but until the Antichrist is revealed, and the falling away takes place the second coming is not coming.

Here is the point that I am really making: the falling away is as major of an event as the appearing of the Antichrist on the world stage. Can you imagine how big of an event of the Antichrist appearing on the world stage is? Well, the falling away is an event that is big too, meaning it is not just a whisper in a corner. This will be a massive falling away. It will be the main subject on our minds.

There will be so many people leaving Jesus when the pressure, the battle for Jerusalem, when the battle for truth, when persecution breaks forth, when it is time for forerunners to be faithful witnesses which is now. It is time to do that now, but it is going to increase in intensity in the years ahead. Many will fall away. More will not fall away. The majority will not, but millions will, and billions are coming to salvation after that. I mean in that same context.

## **THE LOVE OF TRUTH**

2 Thessalonians 2:9-10: We are in the same chapter that we were a minute ago. Paul said that the coming of the lawless one who is the Antichrist, he will have power, signs, and lying wonders. He will have deception. He will deceive. He will trick all kinds of people with his miracles. Why did the people fall prey to his deception? Paul says it in one phrase. They did not love the truth. They wanted to be saved. They wanted their life to be happy, but they did not love the truth.

They said that we do not really care about the truth that much, as long as people like us, as long as we feel good about our walk with God, as long as we feel like we are going to go to heaven, we do not care what the truth really is. Paul said, "if

you do not love the truth”—willing to die, for if you will be vulnerable to deception, if you do not love the truth. You do not have to be a mature Christian, but you have to set in your heart: “I do not care what the truth is, I am standing for the truth. I will die for the truth. I want the truth. I do not care if it is new to me, if it is unfamiliar. If it is in the Bible, I want it. I love it.”

One of the things we care about is that young people make a decision, a fierce decision I will love the truth. I do not care if my ministry falls apart. I do not care if everybody turns against me if it is in the Bible. I am standing even unto death for this truth. That is the only way forward is to the love the truth.

### **ANTICHRIST END-TIME WORSHIP MOVEMENT**

There is an Antichrist worship movement. It is a couple steps down the road. Right now, there is a false worship movement. Next, is coming a harlot worship movement that is going to allure all the folks or many of the folks that are in the wrong way now. That harlot worship movement is going to turn into the Antichrist worship movement, I have details here, and a lot more on our website. I do not want to give all the break it all down here, but I want to give you a sense of what is happening. Right now, is the early stirring. Then we have got an official world church that is coming down the road. It is not here yet. It is the harlot Babylon, then the Antichrist worship system is after that. There is a reason why there are several steps to it.

I do not want to go into that right now, but some of it is covered here, and I have got a lot of information on the website. Revelation 13:4, they will worship Satan, the dragon. They will worship the Antichrist who is the beast. Revelation 13:8: “All who dwell on the earth will worship him.” That does not mean every individual because there is a great worship movement for Jesus. It means all the nations will have a representation of this worship movement in it. But all the nations will have the true worship movement in it as well, and the conflict at the end of the age is a conflict of two houses of prayer.

### **COLLISION BETWEEN TWO HOUSES OF PRAYER AND WORSHIP MOVEMENTS**

The collision is going to be a collision of two houses of prayer: the Antichrist house of prayer, and the Jesus house of prayer are coming into full collision, and it is going to be walked out in the preaching of the Gospel to all nations, and the battle for Jerusalem. I mean it is going to become intense, but the glory of God is

going to be like no time in history. Signs and wonders beyond the book of Acts, signs and wonders beyond the book of Exodus, what Moses did when Israel was delivered out of Egypt and oppression.

There are two stages in Satan's plan to be worshipped by all nations. He has two stages: one the harlot Babylon stage which is a few years down the road. I do not know how long. It will be a real institution. It does not exist right now. Why are there two stages? The devil knows it is too big of a step for people with a religious heritage, whether Christian or Muslim or Hindu, or Jewish or whatever, it is too big of a step for them to leave their heritage, and become Satan worshippers. It is too big, so he is going to have a couple steps in between. They will pull away from their religion, and join the harlot religion. Again, it will not be called the harlot religion. It will be called "man is really awesome dot com." I already told you that. It is going to be some fancy name with dignity. With world peace, everybody is right, and nobody is wrong. Many religions will join it, and there will be no demands. No absolutes.

Everybody is right. No one is wrong. All religions lead to the same God. It is the sort of thing that the Oprah religion is preaching right now. There are many that are doing it. She is just one of the most vocal. It is sweeping the land, the Oprah religion. Everybody is right. Nobody is wrong. Everybody claps except for heaven. Hell is clapping. They say yes: "Go. Go. Go. Go right, and join us in the Lake of Fire." Heaven is saying "no." This is a lie. Do not buy this. So the devil knows it is too big a step to go from a religious background into full on Satan worship. So he has an intermediate step: the harlot religion. No absolutes, total tolerance of everything. All religions lead to God. Revelation 17:1-6: you want to understand these six verses you really do. They are really straightforward. I am sure they have deeper meaning, but there is a simple straightforward meaning to this world religion. Let's read it.

### **HARLOT BABYLON: A COMING ONE-WORLD RELIGION (REVELATION 17)**

Come, this is an angel speaking to John the apostle in the book of Revelation. I will show you the judgment of the great harlot. This is the harlot religion. In Revelation 17:2, it talks about how the kings of the earth will commit fornication with her. The great leaders of the earth will buy into this religion. They will promote it. I mean the Obama religion is in this direction. The Oprah religion is in this direction. The kings of the earth will promote this "everything is right kind of

religion.” Some more bold than others. I do not know where president Obama is. I pray for him regularly.

He is either one of two things: he is either not a believer at all, or he is a true believer, he is in profound deception, and he needs deliverance. He is one or the other, but one thing is for sure: Obama is not speaking the truth of God when he talks on religious issues. I love this man because he is human, and I love humans. He is my president, and I am fighting for his blessing, and prosperity in prayer. I am standing with him, but when this guy talks as a Christian, as a brother; I say, “you are either a deceived brother, or you are not a brother” because this is not the truth what you are saying. So I love the man, but I am not buying his religion. I stand for him, same with the Oprah religion. I see Oprah as the, you know, the first lady of this false religion emerging, the pastor. There are many that will be like her. It feels so good, seems so good it is filled with deception. You must know that. Most of you do. Anyway, the kings of the earth are going to like this religion.

The inhabitants of the earth will be drunk with it, meaning the millions in the earth will be drunk with this religion, they will love it. Everybody is right. Everybody is free, which means they are in demonic bondage. Everyone is free. Everyone is right. The nations will be drunk with it. The talk show hosts will be drunk with it. The leaders of the earth will be drunk. Oh it is great. It is great. We will stand tenderly in humility, but unflinchingly. We are not drunk with that religion. We are exposing it because we love you, and because we love the Lamb who receives the reward of His suffering when people are loyal to Him.

Revelation 17:4: this woman, this religion will be arrayed in purple. She will look royal. I mean the top leaders of the earth will be with her. She will appear royal. We will understand she is false. The nations will be applauding her. The greatest religious unity in history is coming right around the corner. We will resist it. We will not buy it, and they will look at us, and say, “what do you crazy prophetic people want?”

Jesus prayed for unity. You pray for unity. Finally we have unity. Everyone is happy besides you guys. What is it you want? We want unity on Jesus’ terms, not just unity, unity on His terms. I do not want unity on the devil’s terms. I am not interested in that unity. That is bondage and deception gift wrapped, but there are poisonous snakes in that gift. This woman is arrayed with purple. She is adorned with gold. It will be the richest religious movement in human history. They will

have so much money, so much unity; the leaders of the earth will back them up. We will say no.

No. No. It is from hell. They will even use the name Jesus. They will make Him equal to everyone else. He is not equal to anyone. There is nobody like Jesus. He is not one of many. He is Chief among ten thousand. He is one of a kind. There is nobody who is fully God, and fully man. She will have a golden cup. This will be a cup of service. She will offer a golden cup of service. She will serve humanitarian needs. She will help the poor. She will help the orphans. She will build schools. It will be a golden cup. She will be serving all, but the angel told John that cup is filled with abomination and filthiness. Abomination means demons. Filthiness means sexual perversion. Do not buy into that golden cup. It is filled with devils and perversion. It is a cover up for their sin in their own way, no matter what language they dress it up with.

Revelation 17:6, John looked at this woman. He saw her true nature. This happy, prosperous unified serving, serving the poor religious movement, Revelation 17:6, they will be drunk with the blood of the saints. They will murder the saints, and the more they kill the saints, the bolder they will get. They will be drunk in their rage to kill the saints, and the more they kill, the more intoxicated and bolder they will. They will be unified. They will kill the saints of Jesus in the earth, but it will look so beautiful on the front end.

Arrayed in purple, adorned in gold, serving the nations, but look behind the scenes, her service, go down a couple of levels is filled with perversion, demonic abomination, and she will kill the saints of Jesus when the setting is right. She will go after the saints through media, through legal processes. I mean the things that I am even saying here right now. These are simple little things. I mean the battle has just barely beginning. There will be lawsuits. There will be slams. There will be Christian leaders taking a stand that this is false, this is evil, and these guys are crazy. I mean people like us, the things we say. Lawyers will come after us. Laws will come against us. That is the beginning of the beginning. They will be drunk with our blood before it is over. It is not just they are going to take away our buildings here and there. Not just they are going to hassle us, they will be drunk with blood. They will be emboldened in their murderous rage. They are not a peace movement, no matter what they look like.

## **THE PRIMARY ENEMY OF THE HARLOT WILL BE THE SAINTS OPPOSING HER**

Allegiance to Jesus: loving truth are the primary issues. I believe in tolerance. I really believe in tolerance, but the right definition of tolerance. It must be the right definition of tolerance, and I am not going to let other people define what tolerance means. I mean they can. I do not accept their version. Tolerance means this: we value every human being in every religion. We love them. God so loved the world. We love the Muslims. We love Hindus. We love the world church false religion harlot people. We love humans. These humans have incredible value and dignity by virtue of being human.

They are made in the image of God. We want liberties for all religions. We do not want to stop their liberties. We have so much confidence in the power of the Gospel; they can have their liberties. They can spew forth their darkness. We believe the light is more powerful. I want everyone to have their God-ordained liberties in our nation. I want to value them. I am not afraid of them having liberties. I am not afraid of embracing them, being friendly, touching their heart, and them touching my heart in certain ways. They possess great dignity. Tolerance that is what I mean. I do not tolerate the religious ideas, meaning I let them preach to them. That is cool, but I do not accept them as of God. When a guy comes to me and says, "Well, I am a Christian, and I believe all this stuff. I look at him, and I say, "This is false." It just is not the truth. I love you, but the thing that you say to me is I will be friendly to you, but I will not allow you to think I agree with this. That is false. I will not tolerate that in our friendship. You can talk about it, but I want you to know that I believe it is a deception. I can be kind. I can be friendly. We can have talks, but I am not pretending to be unified in the name of tolerance. I do not pretend it is okay. It is a doctrine of demons, and I love that guy too much. The abortion, the sanctity of marriage that is being attacked, there is so much heterosexual immorality and homosexual immorality. Beloved, I love homosexual people who are immoral. I love heterosexual people who are immoral.

## **HOW TO LOVE PEOPLE BUT WITH A SPIRIT OF TRUTH**

I love people so much I will tell them the way out of bondage is through Jesus. I am not going to reject them. They may stumble one hundred more times, one thousand more times. We receive them. They repent. We push delete. We move on. I mean we all stumble. I get that.

I am a pro at stumbling, but I am not going to tolerate it by making them think that they are walking right with God. No. Not if we are friends. I love them too much

for that. I say “no.” There is true liberty. Let me show you the way: Heterosexual, homosexual, asexual, everybody needs to do—to walk Jesus’ way. That is the only way of liberty. I am not against one, and for another.

I am for Jesus. I want to tenderly embrace, help, and love. I do not mean that I am going to point my finger. No. But I am going to with tenderness, and with tears say, “brother you are in deception; let us be friends as long as you know where I stand.” So I believe in tolerance. The conflict of the end times will center on defining who Jesus is. The conflict in the end times will center on defining how we love Jesus. A lot of groups out there say that they love Jesus. The Bible says they do not. You know them by their fruits. That is not love for Jesus. Love for Jesus is not just worship songs. Love for Jesus has a spirit of obedience, and a loyalty to truth in it. The conflict in the end is a conflict of how we define who Jesus is, and how we love Him.

**LOVE EXPRESSED IN ALLEGIANCE TO THE JESUS OF THE BIBLE**

Our love must be expressed in allegiance to the Jesus of the Bible. Not the Jesus of some man’s imagination. There are so many guys talking about this Jesus, and they are changing what the Jesus is. I mean the Jesus they are talking about is not the Jesus of the Bible, and they can say what they want to say, but that is not the Jesus of the Bible. Again, we do not have to be harsh, and confront everyone every time, but if I am going to have a relationship with someone, I am going to be straightforward with them. I was talking to one of our governmental leaders, state leaders he came to IHOP, and he said, “hey, I want to talk to you. I want to help IHOP, and I am a Christian.”

I said, “Great. I love it.”

So we are talking. He says, “Well, I am personally against abortion, but I vote prolife because of my constituency.”

I said, “We might end up friends so I owe this to you: you are in serious deception. I said here have a cup of coffee you know.” We are talking.

He said, “Well that is awful narrow.”

I said, “No. I love you so much, you are deceived if you think you are a Christian, and you are promoting this. This is not the Jesus of the Bible.”

He says, “No. It is a little simplistic.” We talked long. I let him speak his mind.

I said, “I want to be your friend, but when you talk to me, I will tell you exciting and good things. I want to hear your story, but I will tell you the truth. I want you to know you do not sound like a Christian to me.”

He had a grrrr. “Who are you to tell me? I am a man that loves you that is who I am to tell you.”

So I respond, “Let’s be friends. You can say your stuff that is cool, but I will say my stuff, and we will drink coffee, and tell stories, but you have got to know where I am.”

He says, “Well you know I am not comfortable with some of this.”

I respond, “That works for me. That means I am being effective right now, I like that you are not comfortable with this. I like you. Let us keep meeting. Here is the truths that offend these Christians that do not believe we are Christians.” It is not my goal to know a man’s heart, but the Bible says that, “We can understand a man’s heart by the confession of his mouth.”

I do not know anyone’s heart except they say it with their mouth, or do it with their deeds. I do not have insight into anybody’s heart, but Jesus said if they say it with their mouth you could go with what they say. Okay. These guys are offended by the deity of Jesus. They are offended by the absolute standards that Jesus proclaims because He has the right to proclaim them. He is God.

### **SPEAKING FAITHFULLY, BOLDLY, AND TENDERLY**

There is only one way of salvation. There is only one way of salvation because there is only one Man who is fully God who is fully perfect. There is only one man who was perfect, and He took the place of the guilty; so that the guilty—you and me—could take the place before The God of the innocent. The innocent one became guilty so the guilty ones, you and me could become innocent as a free gift. There is no other man who was innocent, and paid the price of guilt.

There is only one way of salvation. People say you say your religion is better. It is not an issue of being better. It is an issue of one man was innocent. He paid the price of divine justice.

If you find another man, I will listen, but there is no such man. I am not trying to be better than anybody. I am trying to help you because there is no other salvation except through the hands of an innocent man who paid the price for sin. Every one else, let me say this clearly. They will end up in the Lake of Fire. I do not care how good they are, they have to receive the free gift of salvation, and we care about this so much. We will tell them the truth. We are not going to -- I call this clumsy humility, this clutter humility that confuses all the issues in the name of humility, which is really just the fear of man and a man pleasing spirit.

### **NO MAN-PLEASING SPIRIT**

We love these people. We have got to tell them the truth. I remember I talked to some of my Jewish leaders. I am talking about the Gentile guys who are committed to Jewish ministries.

They have this idea that the Jews if they are a certain way they can work it from the Law of Moses and God understands their heart. I say, "brother, that is foolishness. There is no other way to Jesus for the Jewish people, I mean to salvation through Jesus. Well no if you go back to Deuteronomy Throw away that foolishness away only one way of salvation."

I would rather offend them now, and give them a chance to get saved than see them in the Lake of Fire forever. I am going to give you just a minute. I am going to finish on time, here so I am going to give a quick kind of advertisement of sorts to these truths. Exposing deception, discerning cults, this is all going together in the same theme.

### **BEWARE OF FALSE TEACHERS WHILE THE GOSPEL IS EXPLODING**

Jesus taught on the end times. One of His major things when He taught on the end times: Beware of false teachers, which means cult, well it includes cults. Look at Matthew 24: "Take heed that no one deceives you. For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many... Many false prophets will rise up and deceive many... This gospel ... will be preached in all the world... then the end will come" (Mt. 24:4-14) Many false prophets will deceive many. Many people are speaking false things, and multitudes are buying it. It is in the same hour as Matthew 24:14, where the Gospel is exploding in power to the ends of the earth.

The dark is getting darker. The light is getting lighter. Deception is increasing. The glory of God is increasing. The battle is raging, but we win. False teaching will accelerate. Cults will accelerate in the same time that the Gospel accelerates.

## **SEVEN CHARACTERISTICS OF CULTS**

I want to give you seven. I am just going to give you a sentence of two on each one. I have an hour teaching on this if you want this for your own life, maybe you are a twenty year old, and you are teaching a Bible study on it. You say, “hey give me a little bit more on it.” On our website, I have an hour on this thing; I am only going to take three or four minutes on. How to discern false teachers and cults: we need to teach our young people how to discern a cult.

So I have teaching called “How to discern false teaching and cults.” It is an hour long. I break this down in a lot more detail. I am thinking of empowering twenty-year olds to teach this to your ministries, your college ministries.

If a group displays one of these seven characteristics, they are either a cult, or they have a cult tendency. Maybe they are not cult, but they are on their way to becoming one.

## **THE OPPOSE CRITICAL THINKING, BUT TEST THINGS WITH THE WORD**

Number one sign of a cult: they oppose critical thinking. They will not let the people think for themselves. Cult members must accept what the cult believes. Number two down here: the Bible says examine everything. We tell our young people here do not believe what I say.

I tell them myself do not believe anything I tell you. Do not believe what Allen Hood tells you. Do not believe what our Bible school tells you. If you cannot see it with your eyes in your Bible do not accept it.

We charge you—we tell them over and over, throughout the year challenge us. If you love the truth, challenge us. Do it in a right spirit. Do it in the right way. We want you to challenge us. We want to train you as critical thinkers meaning think for yourself. Do not let another person tell you what the Bible says except that they can point it to you, but do not buy it, until you see it with your eyes, in your own Bible.

## **CULTS ISOLATE MEMBERS**

Number two: cults isolate members. They penalize the people when they leave their ministry.

Any group that penalizes you because you leave them, that is a cult tendency, or they say you are kind of hanging out with those other groups.

We need to love the whole Body of Christ with a culture of honor. Yes there are times to expose destructive doctrines and destructive behavior. But there is a right method, and a right spirit to do it. There is a time to do that, but our spirit of a godly man or woman is to honor the whole Body of Christ, and when somebody tells you, they start warning you that if you leave them, you are going to be judged. You are going to be penalized. We are not going to talk to you any more. We are going to put you on the bad list; beloved, that is a cult. I do not care how famous the church is that is a cult or at least that is a cult tendency. As shepherds, we need to encourage young people to find the ministry that fits them best in the will of God. I do not care how many years they are with us at IHOP. If they have another place it is our responsibility to help them get there in the will of God.

## **EMPHASIZING SPECIAL DOCTRINES OUTSIDE SCRIPTURE**

Number three: cults have their own doctrines that are really important. Two, three, four, five or whatever if they have one that is too many. They are doctrines that are outside of the Bible. In

true Christianity, we create, or cultivate a spirit of loyalty to the Bible. If it is not in the Bible, we do not accept it. If I say it, and it is not in the Bible, I have to unsay it. I have to admit it, and then make it right.

We are loyal to the Bible. I do not mean we as IHOP. Yes we are. I mean the church across the earth, the true church is loyal to the Bible.

## **INAPPROPRIATE LOYALTY TO LEADERS**

Number four: inappropriate loyalty to leaders. We do not want our people with an inappropriate loyalty. There is a spirit of loyalty where we are cooperating; we are honoring each other with biblical principles. We must make people loyal to Jesus, and His leadership. Sometimes I will hear somebody going I love IHOP. I do not care. I go no. No. No. No. That is wrong. I love that you love this leadership team, but do not get overzealous and naïve. Your loyalty is to Jesus.

You serve this ministry with a spirit of cooperation, but your loyalty is to Him. That is the only way we will receive you in our midst as a leader. I do not want loyalty to somebody, to me first. That is broken. That leads to all kinds of bad things. I want loyalty to Him, and therefore they are on loan to IHOP for a while. Cults dishonor the family unit. The biblical priority is the family unit.

### **DISHONORING THE FAMILY UNIT**

Number five: cults teach the children more loyalty to the leaders than their parents. That is absolutely wrong. Whenever a leadership team gets young people particularly teens more loyal to them than their parents, that are a cult that is not right. We must teach people to honor their parents. Now there are times, when the parents want them to do something different than the will of God. There is a place for a young person in tenderness and humility to say this is not the will of God, and there is a process you go through. It is not because the leaders said it. It is because that young person has a clarity from the Lord, from the written Word, and it is confirmed through more mature people who have really heard the Word of God.

But even then, they make appeals with patience and humility; they have loyalty to their family. Cults get children, and they aim for the women to be more loyal to the cult leader than their own husbands. This is really, really false, really bad. The identity of ones family is more important than their connection and loyalty to the ministry.

### **CROSSING BIBLICAL BOUNDARIES OF BEHAVIOR**

Number six: crossing the boundary lines of behavior particularly in sexual purity and financial or personal ownership. Cults tell everybody else to live one way, and they have liberties in sexuality which is immorality, and they want the money, or they own the property, or they want you to give your money to them. That is not right. I mean free will offerings are one thing.

We cannot cross the boundary lines. Everybody, the leaders embrace purity. Everybody stumbles and falls, but with repentance and confession, there is forgiveness, there is covering, and there is a new beginning. I am big on all of that, but what I am getting at: leaders cannot have a special revelation, and have a special way in immorality that they do not repent of. That is false. They cannot have the money and the property. They cannot take the stuff from the people. They need to be giving stuff to the people under them, living in greater dedication to God, and purity than the people under them are living.

## **SEPARATION FROM THE CHURCH**

Number seven, finally a cult will try to separate people from the Body of Christ. We are the only group that is right. Everybody else is wrong. No. We must honor the whole Body of Christ. I am talking about the sincere body of Christ who are seeking to love Jesus in all the denominations. Again, there is a time to expose, confront destructive behavior, destructive doctrine of leaders, but there is a biblical way, and there is a right spirit to do it.

I am not talking about abdicating that, but I am saying the spirit of any group must honor the Body of Christ and love all the streams of the whole Church who are sincerely trying to follow Jesus. We have to have a lot of patience patients when groups stumble or have deficiencies.

We all stumble. We all have deficiencies.

## **MINISTRY TIME: THE APOSTLE'S CREED**

I want you to stand. We are going to read these two. We are going to end with this: The Apostles Creed. Let's read it together all out loud. I used to do this at the Presbyterian Church.

We would read this. I loved it. We used to do it every Sunday. Okay let us read it out loud:

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth  
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord;  
Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary,  
Suffered under Pontius Pilot, was crucified, dead and buried;  
He descended into hell: the third day He rose again from the dead;  
He ascended into heaven, sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
From then He shall come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic Church,  
The communion of saints, the forgiveness of sin—sins, I have lots of them.  
The resurrection of the body, and everlasting life.

Let's read the next one -- creed.

## **THE NICENE CREED**

We believe in one God, the Father,—everybody together. Okay good. Let's start over.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty Maker of heaven, and earth, of all that is seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through Him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, He came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man.

For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilot; he suffered death, and was buried.

On the third day, He rose again in accordance with the Scripture; He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead. His Kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and The Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.

Amen and amen.