

Kingdom Feature, June 2016

“Unveiling the Revelation in the Book of Revelation”

Chapter 2

Doctrine of Devils - Part II

The Doctrine of the Nicolaitanes

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Last week, we covered the Doctrine of Balaam that was identified in the church of Pergamos, and this week we will be looking at the parallel counterpart the Doctrine of the Nicolaitanes.

As I stated in last week's teaching, (presented in the December 2015 newsletter) and it is essential that we understand Godly leadership versus demon inspired leadership that is designed to seduce and take God's children captive unaware.

There are those who have tried to relate the Nicolaitanes to Nicolaus of Antioch (Acts 6:5) but there is no scriptural evidence for doing so. In order for us to gain an understanding of this doctrine, let's look at where the name was derived from:

Nikao: to conquer or be victorious

Laos: people or laity

When you put the two Greek definitions together you arrive at:
'conquerors and victors over the people or laity.'

What we see is a religious dictatorship that allowed little or no freedom to the members or the congregation of this church. This is one of the reasons that the Holy Spirit spoke so clearly through the Apostle Peter in **I Peter 5:2-4**:

"Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; nor for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind. Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being examples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away."

The doctrine of the Nicolaitanes stripped the people from being able to seek the Holy Spirit for themselves, and instead made the people totally dependent on man for their spiritual insight. There is no place in the Word of God that authorizes any leader to be on the same level as the Holy Spirit as it relates to:

>>Seeking answers from a leader before you go to God first.

>>Seeking and relying on a leader to do your praying for you, and you never seeking to pray for yourself.

>>Seeking a leader to tell you what the Word of God means, and you never studying the Word of God for yourself.

>>Seeking a leader to make you feel good about yourself, when you clearly know that you are outside the will of God.

>>Seeking to please a leader first instead of seeking to please God first.

WHAT DOES GODLY LEADERSHIP LOOK LIKE?

Godly leadership will always point you to God first rather than trying to make you dependent on mankind for your spiritual growth.

Godly leadership will take on the form of a servant rather than expecting others to serve and worship them.

Godly leadership will seek to lift up Jesus every opportunity that they get rather than seeking to glorify themselves.

Godly leadership will not seek to take credit for what God has done through them, but will give all praise and honor to God.

Godly leadership will seek to help others mature in their gifting and go forth in the ministry in God's timing, rather than making them "pew sitters."

Godly leadership will release correction and discipline when needed rather than being a man pleaser in order to gain advantage.

Godly leadership will not allow filthy lucre (money) to control them and hold them hostage, but will follow the leading of the Holy Spirit no matter what.

Godly leadership does not have to be applauded, worshipped, or put on a pedestal in order to fulfill their assignment; their number one priority is to bring honor to their Father God.

Godly leadership will endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ, rather than complaining and murmuring when things don't go their way.

Godly leadership will not use manipulation or intimidation in order to get their way, but will depend on the Holy Spirit to manifest what is needed.

Godly leadership will seek to grow deeper in the power of love, rather than having a desire for the love of power.

Scriptures on Godly Leadership: [Proverbs 31:8-9](#); [Proverbs 16:12](#); [Isaiah 16:5](#); [I Timothy 6:12](#); [Proverbs 29:2](#); [I Peter 5:2](#); [Psalms 78:72](#); [Luke 12:48](#); [Acts 20:28](#); [Galatians 6:9](#); [Matthew 20:26](#); [I Timothy 3:5](#); [Titus 1:6-7](#).