

The Dangers of Word Faith Influences on Deliverance

Luke 11: 23

When anyone starts a project; they should have a strategy, with performance targets along the way that have to be met. Luke 14: 28-35 - For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it? Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him, Saying, This man began to build, and was not able to finish. Or what king, going to make war against another king, sitteth not down first, & consulteth whether he be able with ten thousand to meet him that cometh against him with twenty thousand? Or else, while the other is yet a great way off, he sendeth an ambassage, and desireth conditions of peace. So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple. Salt is good: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be seasoned? It is neither fit for the land, nor yet for the dunghill; but men cast it out. He that hath ears to hear, let him hear. Now that the modern deliverance work that Our Lord has started has been going for a while; it's time to do an evaluation. & in order to be thorough & complete, we need to look at it from the micro as well as the macro views. It's so easy to point out the faults in others, while neglecting the errors in ourselves. Matthew 7: 1 to 5 - Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again. And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye.

And so that we don't get bogged down with minor issues, we will bypass personal quirks and foibles.

When a train gets knocked off the tracks; one of the main factors to investigate is the rails. And in particular; what caused the spikes to fail.

The devil has two main tactics; direct confrontation or subversion by compromise. The former is mentioned in Acts 5: 17 to 42 - Then the high priest rose up, and all they that were with him, (which is the sect of the Sadducees,) and were filled with indignation, And laid their hands on the apostles, and put them in the common prison. But the angel of the Lord by night opened the prison doors, and brought them forth, and said, Go, stand and speak in the temple to the people all the words of this life. And when they heard that, they entered into the temple early in the morning, and taught. But the high priest came, and they that were with him, and called the council together, and all the senate of the children of Israel, and sent

to the prison to have them brought. But when the officers came, and found them not in the prison, they returned, and told, Saying, The prison truly found we shut with all safety, and the keepers standing without before the doors: but when we had opened, we found no man within. Now when the high priest and the captain of the temple and the chief priests heard these things, they doubted of them whereunto this would grow. Then came one and told them, saying, Behold, the men whom ye put in prison are standing in the temple, and teaching the people. Then went the captain with the officers, and brought them without violence: for they feared the people, lest they should have been stoned. And when they had brought them, they set them before the council: and the high priest asked them, Saying, Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name? and, behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us. Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men. The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom ye slew and hanged on a tree. Him hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins. And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him. When they heard that, they were cut to the heart, and took counsel to slay them. Then stood there up one in the council, a Pharisee, named Gamaliel, a doctor of the law, had in reputation among all the people, and commanded to put the apostles forth a little space; And said unto them, Ye men of Israel, take heed to yourselves what ye intend to do as touching these men. For before these days rose up Theudas, boasting himself to be somebody; to whom a number of men, about four hundred, joined themselves: who was slain; and all, as many as obeyed him, were scattered, and brought to nought. After this man rose up Judas of Galilee in the days of the taxing, and drew away much people after him: he also perished; and all, even as many as obeyed him, were dispersed. And now I say unto you, Refrain from these men, & let them alone: for if this counsel or this work be of men, it will come to nought: But if it be of God, ye cannot overthrow it; lest haply ye be found even to fight against God. And to him they agreed: and when they had called the apostles, and beaten them, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, & let them go. And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name. And daily in the temple, & in every house, they ceased not to teach & preach Jesus Christ. The latter is mentioned in Acts 16: 16 to 40 - And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying: The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the

most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation. And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour. And when her masters saw that the hope of their gains was gone, they caught Paul and Silas, and drew them into the marketplace unto the rulers, And brought them to the magistrates, saying, These men, being Jews, do exceedingly trouble our city, And teach customs, which are not lawful for us to receive, neither to observe, being Romans. And the multitude rose up together against them: and the magistrates rent off their clothes, and commanded to beat them . And when they had laid many stripes upon them, they cast them into prison, charging the jailor to keep them safely: Who, having received such a charge, thrust them into the inner prison, and made their feet fast in the stocks. And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them. And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed. And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled. But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, Do thyself no harm: for we are all here. Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas, And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house. And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway. And when he had brought them into his house, he set meat before them, and rejoiced, believing in God with all his house. And when it was day, the magistrates sent the serjeants, saying, Let those men go. And the keeper of the prison told this saying to Paul, The magistrates have sent to let you go: now therefore depart, and go in peace. But Paul said unto them, They have beaten us openly uncondemned, being Romans, and have cast us into prison; and now do they thrust us out privily? nay verily; but let them come themselves and fetch us out. And the serjeants told these words unto the magistrates: and they feared, when they heard that they were Romans. And they came and besought them, and brought them out, and desired them to depart out of the city. And they went out of the prison, and entered into the house of Lydia: and when they had seen the brethren, they comforted them, and departed.

Take notice: those who are compelled to serve Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Full Gospel of salvation, healing and deliverance; the devil will be so upset that he will stir up adversaries against you. Those who are not strong in the

Lord Jesus will buckle under the oppression. Should a main-line pastor drift into deliverance; he will be reminded very quickly who controls the church and the finances; and it's not him. And if someone in one of these churches gets into deliverance; they will come under severe pressure to renounce their new beliefs, or they will get the left foot of fellowship.

And there are countries where deliverance is illegal.

But the favoured tactic of satan is the same as he used in the Garden of Eden. By getting our first parents to compromise the Word of God; the devil scored a huge victory. Genesis 3: 1 to 8 - Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons. And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden.

Getting people into error by mis-using Scripture, is a favoured tactic of the devil. He has used it all too often, and with much success. How many churches, & denominations, & sects all claim to worship the One True God? Hebrews 5: 11 to 6: 3 - Of whom we have many things to say, and hard to be uttered, seeing ye are dull of hearing. For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil. Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, Of the doctrine of baptisms, & of laying on of hands, & of resurrection of the dead, & of eternal judgment. And this will we do, if God permit.

While the New Age and the occult are major threats to the Church; because they do not usually claim to be Christian, they are easier to spot.

But the "Kingdom Theology Movement" has so much doctrinal error, that God's People should stay clear. Two of the major components of it are; Word Faith, and Manifest Sons of God. If you are not familiar with them, you should study up on them. 2 Corinthians 13: 5 - Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?

And if you look at the leaders of deliverance who left it over the years; most went in that direction. And as for the few that returned many years later; watch out for the bones.

However, many years ago, I heard an Indonesian deliverance pastor, Leo Setzepfandt speak of his four years in a Word Faith school. His topic was, "Rescued from Word Faith Heresy". And Our Lord used him mightily in delivering those who had been infected by it.

While some of them offer a type of deliverance, it is very shallow, and some of their techniques are right from the occult.

It seems that there is a powerful demon controlling them, that keeps them bound up. 1 John 2:18 - Little children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour.

The spirit of antichrist is a very strong demon, who turns people away from the Real Lord Jesus Christ and His Shed Blood. And he has many sly tricks up his sleeve.

Positive Thinking - This caters to people's greed and selfishness. It has them going around coveting everything. Exodus 20: 17 Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's.

Did Our Lord Jesus have all the luxuries that He as the Real King's Kid could have had. Matthew 8: 20 Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes & birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head."

Positive Confession - This expands people's delusions of grandeur. They are not only greedily thinking, but now are proclaiming it everywhere. There must be spirits of socialism here too. How many of them have claimed first prize in the lotteries; and has anyone won? James 4:3 - Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts.

But it goes farther, and it gets worse. They proclaim that people are healed or delivered; and they are no better. Many years ago, one of their leaders, Morris Cerrillo went to India on a fund raising campaign. Everything was going good, and then he started proclaiming people as healed. So the trouble started. The audience, realizing that they had not been healed but only fleeced; started a riot. They were about to lynch Mr. Cerrillo when the police arrived to rescue him. They got him out safely, put him on a plane, and told him never to come back.

If they had only prayed asking Our Lord Jesus to heal them; there would have been no problem. But when they promoted themselves as prophets, and nothing happened; the Indians were about to administer the Biblical reward for false prophets.

Watch out for the five-fold ministry; as they are the major proponents of this. There is another side to this. Some call it being a spiritual ostrich or being in denial. This is when people pretend they don't hear or accept things they don't like. It's like little children playing. They cover their eyes, thinking that no-one can see them. It's interesting that Our Lord Jesus Christ didn't practice this. Isaiah 53: 4 to 9 - Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth. He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken. & he made his grave with the wicked, & with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth.

And when positive confession crosses over into deliverance; then problems arise. Pastor Win Worley used to tell his workers, that when people come for help; just pray for them and don't counsel them. They have had enough counselling; they came to get the demons out. Counselling may make people feel better, but it won't help situations that are demonic in origin.

Throughout history there have been rulers wanting to show off their powers. The few I can remember are a Chinese emperor and a Old English king. Back in 1028, King Canute had his throne set up on the sea shore when the tide went out. As the tide came in, he commanded it to stop advancing. When the waters came up to his waist, he had a change of mind, and retreated to safety. It's a good thing that he didn't try it in the Bay of Fundy; it has the highest tide in the world; and it comes in so fast that people can't outrun it.

As to how much we have to fight the devil; what did Our Lord Jesus do?

Matthew 4: 1 to 11 - Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred. And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. Then the

devil taketh him up into the holy city, & setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple, & saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: & in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone. Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God. Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, & sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world & the glory of them; & saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down & worship me. Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, & him only shalt thou serve. Then the devil leaveth him & behold angels came & ministered to him.

Please notice that Our Lord Jesus kept on fighting the devil until he backed off. But how long did it last? Luke 4: 13 - And when the devil had ended all the temptation, he departed from him for a season.

The devil did not give up then, and he doesn't give up on us either. Like a lion stalking his prey, the devil watched and waited, and pounced when the moment was right. How many times were Our Lord and the disciples crossing the Sea of Galilee, when the winds whipped up a storm? Our Lord Jesus rebuked the wind and the waves, every time; not just once.

Are things different to-day? Ephesians 6: 10 to 18 - Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places . Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; Paul commands us in verse 12 to wrestle against our demonic enemies.

3823 pale *pal'-ay* AV-wrestle 1; 1) wrestling (a contest between two in which each endeavours to throw the other, and which is decided when the victor is able to hold his opponent down with his hand upon his neck)

1a) the term is transferred to the Christian's struggle with the power of evil Can you say that the Church is being very persistent and victorious in their wrestling the demons? I know many people who have backed out off spiritual warfare; because they have moved on to better things. Why then

are they living such defeated lives?

Visualisation - Occultists have used this for thousands of years to help their people concentrate their demonic energies on a target. For example; when they want to kill someone; they would picture them in their mind's eye as dead. This would focus and concentrate spirits of death to afflict the target. This is a counterfeit of Godly dreams and visions.

Acts 2: 17 & 18 - And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy: If believers use visualisation; it is called charismatic witchcraft.

Guided Imagery - Is an extension of visualisation. Now an unpleasant event is re-lived in the person's mind; and having the outcome change to a more favourable one. This would correspond with false visions, and is not of God. Jeremiah 14: 14 - Then the LORD said unto me, The prophets prophesy lies in my name: I sent them not, neither have I commanded them, neither spake unto them: they prophesy unto you a false vision and divination, and a thing of nought, and the deceit of their heart.

Speaking things into existence - Is used in an attempt to get a desired object, usually more money. You will also see their kind on stage in a black cape; tapping their black hat with their wand to produce doves and bunnies. Pharaoh had some of those guys too.

Exodus 7: 8 to 13 - And the LORD spake unto Moses and unto Aaron, saying, When Pharaoh shall speak unto you, saying, Shew a miracle for you: then thou shalt say unto Aaron, Take thy rod, and cast it before Pharaoh, and it shall become a serpent. And Moses and Aaron went in unto Pharaoh, and they did so as the LORD had commanded: and Aaron cast down his rod before Pharaoh, and before his servants, and it became a serpent. Then Pharaoh also called the wise men and the sorcerers: now the magicians of Egypt, they also did in like manner with their enchantments. For they cast down every man his rod, and they became serpents: but Aaron's rod swallowed up their rods. And he hardened Pharaoh's heart, that he hearkened not unto them; as the LORD had said. - Did you see who won?

Universal energy - It is clear that there is much spiritual activity going on; but most of it is not of God. It would be the "universal energy" or the force in Star Wars. It's a counterfeit of God's Holy Spirit.

Daniel 11: 36 to 39 - And the king shall do according to his will; and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvellous things against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished: for that that is determined shall be done. Neither shall he regard the God of his fathers, nor the desire of women, nor

regard any god: for he shall magnify himself above all. But in his estate shall he honour the God of forces: and a god whom his fathers knew not shall he honour with gold, and silver, and with precious stones, and pleasant things. Thus shall he do in the most strong holds with a strange god, whom he shall acknowledge and increase with glory: and he shall cause them to rule over many, and shall divide the land for gain.

And when you combine the afore mentioned techniques; there arise counterfeit programs. The main ones are inner healing and healing of the memories. These involve visualising Jesus coming back and clearing up the problems. I prefer Our Lord Jesus Christ's Way. Matthew 8: 16 - When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: & he cast out the spirits with his word, & healed all that were sick: Even the religious leaders had to admit the effectiveness of Our Lord's Way. If he counselled or visualised; they would have had no problem.

Matthew 9: 34 - But the Pharisees said, He casteth out devils through the prince of the devils.

Even the demons themselves acknowledged the effectiveness of Our Lord's Way. Matthew 8: 31 - So the devils besought him, saying, If thou cast us out, suffer us to go away into the herd of swine.

So, we have a choice. Are we going to strut around claiming our god kind of faith; or are we going to be like Our Lord Jesus Christ?

John 4: 34 - Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work.

John 14: 23 - Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

So it's as Joshua charged the people. Joshua 24: 15 - And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

Are we going to obey Our Lord Jesus Christ? Mark 16: 15 to 18 - And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

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