

LAITY RULE AND THE LAWLESS SPIRIT

Both Unprofitable

By Apostle Jacquelyn Fedor

In both the Old Testament and early New Testament church, God chose His leaders. In many churches today however, the people rule in that they hire leadership and feel free to fire them if they don't care for the way the ministry is run.

But, let us read **Ephesians 4:11-12**.

11 And **He Himself gave** some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,

12 **for the equipping of the saints** for the work of ministry, for **the edifying** of the body of Christ,

So choosing our own leaders is not of God. We may observe the gifting operating and see the anointing on a person's life and the people therefore elect to follow them, but this is still God showing them who to pick. Where the prophetic operates, the prophets will call the leadership forth. God loves and protects His shepherds. In fact, here is how God feels about His leadership or elders.

I Timothy 5:17

17 Let the elders who rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in the word and doctrine.

I Chronicles 16:22

22 Saying, “Do not touch My anointed ones, and do My prophets no harm.”

So, if you are being critical of leadership ... beware. Be especially sensitive to the Holy Spirit in ones that have been in ministry for many years. Understand how God selects His people. We are all predestined, before the earth was formed for this time. What each of us are called to do is preordained.

Ephesians 1:11

11 In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will,

Many push and shove to be leadership that are not even called to that position, or are maybe not ready to lead, not prepared, not anointed. It's not their time yet. Do you see the seriousness of trying to occupy the the time and

space of leadership God has put in place? No-one can be them but them!

Ephesians 1:4

4 just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love,

So, when you speak against those in office, who are you really crossing? Or whose ability are you really criticizing when you insinuate you know better than those God has placed over you? Do you understand you have come against God's authority in that person?

Romans 13:1-2, 4 warns,

1 Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God.

2 Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves.

In verse 4 He says:

4 For he is God's minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain (the sword is the Bible or the Word); for he is God's minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil.

You challenge His right to select whom He chooses when you refuse to see leadership, in effect, you are challenging God's sovereignty. When He chooses them, He speaks through them, so you also challenge God's right to direct you if you turn a deaf ear to counsel. If you “think” you can handle a situation yourself, whose knowledge have you based your decision on? If the decision you have to make is life changing, God would like to help you, He would like you to have His input. Many times things go wrong however, because we don't want to hear that He speaks into our lives through leadership. Because advice is defied, God's input is refused, and the door to Satan is wide opened to enter the situation through lawlessness. It is fairly easy to recognize the spirit of lawlessness, as it will almost always have something derogatory to say about those placed in authority over them. It is best you do not listen to them as you may really find yourself in opposition to God.

I Timothy 5:19 says:

19 Do not receive an accusation against an elder except from two or three witnesses.

The lawless spirit you see is also known as the accuser of the brethren. They will attack the validity of the counsel given, and make every excuse in the world as to why they will pursue their own course of action against the advice

of elders. This same accuser of the the brethren spirit will try to make those that are walking good look bad to elders, justifying or making excuses for their own disobedience. In other words, if you listen to those harboring a lawless spirit, they will lead you to think everyone is wrong and they know best. If you inspect their life however it is really sad. They leave a trail of confused people that really did mean well. Parents, teachers, when they entered the workforce, even their bosses, were always wrong. No-one can do anything better than they can is their slogan, and they truly believe it, because the enemy has trained them well. They are puppets of Satan and in bondage to their own intellect.

The Word says in **Galatians 6:3**

3 For if anyone thinks himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself.

It's very hard to deliver a lawless person, because they grow to think the thoughts of this evil spirit are their own, so they won't let go of it or even acknowledge it is there. This can also make them very vicious gossips as they see the faults of everyone but theirs. So if such a one starts talking against the brothers or sisters, tell them to read Matthew 18:15 and pull out all the weed seeds they have spoken into you.

Matthew 18:15

15 “Moreover if your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he hears you, you have gained your brother.

I speak strongly against associating with those that exhibit this spirit. This advice especially applies to newly baptized ones. These lawless ones create division between God's sheep and cause them to not trust their shepherds, putting these misinformed ones in opposition with the Lord and His people. They even assume the leadership position in the mind of those they mislead if they can.

The Lord says at **Hebrews 13:7**,

7 Remember those who rule over you, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct.

In other words, judge the fruit of their lives. Are they Kingdom minded? Do they serve God willingly and under authority, or do they choose what they will or will not do, or even worse, do nothing? God does not put loose cannons into leadership positions, because we reproduce what we are. So, if you hear them grumbling against God, His leadership, or His people, run. It could be disastrous!

In **Titus 3:1 and 2** we are reminded,

1 Remind them to be subject to rulers and authorities, to obey, to be ready for every good work,

2 to speak evil of no one, to be peaceable, gentle, showing all humility to all men.

Let us study a scenario that encompasses this whole topic in

Numbers 16:3-5.

3 They gathered together against Moses and Aaron, and said to them, “You take too much upon yourselves, for all the congregation is holy, every one of them, and the LORD is among them. Why then do you exalt yourselves above the assembly of the LORD?”

4 So when Moses heard it, he fell on his face;

5 and he spoke to Korah and all his company, saying, “Tomorrow morning the LORD will show who is His and who is holy, and will cause him to come near to Him. That one whom He chooses He will cause to come near to Him.”

In verse 11 we see who they really challenged.

Numbers 16:11

11 Therefore you and all your company are gathered together against the LORD. And what is Aaron that you complain against him?”

In verse 19 we see Korah gathering the whole congregation against God's chosen leaders and in 21 God wants to consume them all.

Numbers 16:19-21

19 And Korah gathered all the congregation against them at the door of the tabernacle of meeting. Then the glory of the LORD appeared to all the congregation.

20 And the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying,

21 “Separate yourselves from among this congregation, that **I may consume them in a moment.**”

But, Moses and Aaron begged for God to spare the people, pointing out it was only this one lawless person that started it all. Korah's friends and family were convinced Korah was right, so let us read the final results of their folly.

Numbers 16:24-27

24 “Speak to the congregation, saying, ‘Get away from the tents of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram.’”

25 Then Moses rose and went to Dathan and Abiram, and the elders of Israel followed him.

26 And he spoke to the congregation, saying, “Depart now from the tents of

these wicked men! Touch nothing of theirs, lest you be consumed in all their sins.”

27 So they got away from around the tents of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram; and Dathan and Abiram came out and stood at the door of their tents, with their wives, their sons, and their little children.

In verses 31-33 we see their end:

Numbers 16:31-33

31 Now it came to pass, as he finished speaking all these words, that the ground split apart under them,

32 and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them up, with their households and all the men with Korah, with all their goods.

33 So they and all those with them went down alive into the pit; the earth closed over them, and they perished from among the assembly.

God who is the same today as yesterday, said in **Exodus 22:28**,

28 “You shall not revile God, nor curse a ruler of your people.

In closing, let us read **Hebrews 13:17**

17 **Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy**

and **not with grief**, for **that** would be **unprofitable for you**.

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