

Demonism (part 5)

16. The current anti-intellectualism in the church today is demonic.
 - a. While people often think that the old sin nature is their most destructive enemy, I would posit that demonic influence of the mind is far more pernicious and difficult to fix.
 - b. Just think of the power of demon influence in brainwashing Christians so extensively that their minds are locked down against any information that would inform them of their evil Humean and Kantian mindsets (anti-philosophical realism). Just to mention their names to certain believers is to close the steel trap of their minds. I wish we could get believers to be as committed to Christ and Truth as they are to Humean and Kantian anti-philosophical attitudes.
 - c. Consider the saturation of evil that demons can bring to a believer's mind in making him anti-intellectual. The most powerful demonic force today is anti-intellectualism.
 - d. Consider the diabolic influence in a believer's mind who thinks that Bible doctrine is some power apart from God that he really does not even need to understand.
 - e. Consider how demons can so pervert the thinking of Christians that they think that they do not need to learn metaphysics even though metaphysics fills their Bibles.
 - f. Consider the darkness that demons are able to bring to a doctrinal believer's understanding as often reflected in the fact that such a believer can be under doctrine for decades and still have no clue about the nature of God.
 - g. For more details of how demons have destroyed the minds of contemporary Christians through modern philosophy (not philosophical realism) I recommend reading chapters 6-7 in Hal Lindsey's *Satan is Alive and Well on Planet Earth*.
 - h. To live in the modern world with the modern mindset is to have been influenced by Satan. It is not a matter of if but how much. All of our minds are victims to some extent. The only question is what are you going to do about it.
17. Before I expose the rank demonism and occultism in today's churches and in certain Christians (who are unaware that anti-intellectualism is demonic), let's note a few passages on the need for Bible doctrine and spiritual discernment.

- a. Ephesians 4:14 "...that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting."
- ✓ All baby believers are susceptible of being carried away by false doctrine. This is why occult activity can take place in the Word of Faith, Benny Hinn, and Osteen movements without notice. Christians today have no sense of urgency about growing up spiritually. As babies they are sitting ducks to false doctrine.
 - ✓ Baby believers often distort any correct Bible doctrine that they hear. I can't tell you how many times I have heard of heretical things come out of the mouth of believers who have listened to solid Bible teaching for decades. No matter how much you listen, if you are a baby in understanding God you will be "tossed about." True grow requires really understanding the truths of Bible doctrine. This requires philosophical and metaphysical understanding along with the ministry of the Holy Spirit.
 - ✓ Anti-intellectualism is from the Devil. He loves to get people to listen and yet never gain a profound knowledge of God and His ways. He loves to get people into superstition, to think that the power of the Word works in them in some magical way apart from fellowship with God or even understanding anything about it.
- b. 1 Timothy 4:13, "Till I come, give attention to reading to exhortation to doctrine."
- ✓ The local church must be about reading the Scriptures and exhortation to Bible doctrine.
- c. 1 Timothy 4:16, "Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will deliver both yourself and those who hear you."
- ✓ The pastor-teacher is to study, teach, and live Bible doctrine. He is responsible before the Lord in teaching the Lord's flock. He is but an under-shepherd. Only Christ is the Chief Shepherd. Every pastor-teacher is given a flock to feed and take to maturity.
 - 1 Peter 5:2 Feed the flock of God among you, exercising oversight not under compulsion, but voluntarily, according to the will of God; and not for sordid gain, but with eagerness; 3 nor yet as lording it over those allotted to your charge, but proving to be examples to the flock.
 - Acts 20:28 "Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.

- d. 2 Timothy 3:16 "All Scripture is God-breathed and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,"
- The Bible is designed for the development Bible doctrine (taking the biblical data and *logically* categorizing it, as per our study of logic and truth) and to provide reproof (standard for what is wrong) and then correction (standard for what is right, the spiritual life) and instruction in righteousness (for advancement in the plan of God).
- e. 2 Timothy 4:3, "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will help up for themselves teachers;"
- When churches cater to pagan desires and views of God, they destroy themselves as well as any opportunity to teach those who are there who are really interested.
- f. Titus 1:9, "holding fast the faithful word as he has been taught, that he may be able, by sound doctrine, both to exhort and convict those who contradict.
- A pastor-teacher must never be afraid to contradict false views of society or in his congregation.
 - His job is to teach Truth even when it is not popular and the people do not like the subject matter.
 - Going along just to get along always leads to disintegration of Truth in any church. Just look at the mess Christianity is in today. Who would think that so many Christians would be so saturated with demonic influence? Truth matters!