

Letter 497
Say What?!
 2016-08-03

Dear Dan,

In Letter 459 Volume 6, I write about how the Holy Spirit gave me a Rhema Word against the Common Cold. But the way the Lord went about instructing me caught me a little by surprise. He used a ploy that I personally experienced in at least one Pentecostal meeting in January of 2015, and have been hearing lately in various podcasts from audio sources by those I call the "New Pentecostals". It is a practice that I presently don't have a name* for, but it goes something like this.

A pastor or evangelist will be speaking along, and **suddenly** he will instruct, more like demand, the congregation to say a word or phrase. This usually is done very quickly, so that no one has time to think about what they are being asked to say, or why.

Now, I knew in Letter 459 that it was the Holy Spirit who was giving me the words to say, but at the same time it reminded me of what I had been hearing.

Nevertheless I obeyed the Lord in repeating what He had instructed me to say, after which I protested a little, reminding Him of my painful memory concerning this matter.

He agreed with me that the practice of men telling, actually commanding, other men and women what to say and do from the pulpit is wrong. This is true even if the speaker has the anointing of the Holy Spirit while he is speaking. This practice both grieves the Holy Spirit and violates Scripture where it says:

"You have been bought at a price. Do not become slaves of men".
 1 Corinthians 7:23

There can be some exceptions that are not abusive. But the pulpit is the place of authority given by the Church to those who minister the Word of God. It is to be a place from which to teach, proclaim, exhort, correct, edify and comfort. But **NEVER** to control or command.

The ONLY person authorized to directly command a word or phrase to be spoken by anyone in the Church at any time is the Lord God, and Him alone. Any man or woman doing this in the Church is usurping the place of the Lord in the hearts of those he or she is attempting to control.

The Lord Holy Spirit is my Lord in all things, and is duly authorized by the Lord Jesus Christ to command me in Word and Deed. See 2nd Corinthians 3:17.

Men who are in positions of authority, who do this to other men in the Church, create the fissure that Uday & Qusay look for, and exploit it by first sending poisonous fumes of witchcraft which then open the door for any level of ignorance and apathy, after which

much stronger sins enter in.

This would be like sliding under a door a written invitation to a party on piece of paper. But the paper has been laced with anthrax and other toxins. It may say something nice, but it made its entrance through improper channels, and touching and handling the invitation may kill the one who handles it.

And as you recently put it Dan, Deception is deceptive.

*I suppose it could be called The VCM (Verbal Control and Manipulation) Effect.

** See also Letters 331 and 336 Volume 5-15.

Blessings...

R. C. Theophilus