# PRAYER STUDY #101 BEWARE OF LAST DAY'S DECEPTIONS

The Bewitched Galatians and the Colossian Heresy

I have frequently commented that one obvious place for the antichrist to arise would be in the Charismatic movement, because most Charismatics seem to think that anything supernatural must be from God. That is not so. Satan is capable of great supernatural signs and wonders.

The greatest single danger in this end time is not sickness, nor poverty, nor persecution. It is deception.

Both quotes by Derek Prince

I marvel that you are so soon removed from Him that called you into the grace of Christ, unto another gospel, which is not another, but there are some that trouble you and would pervert the Gospel of Christ. But though we or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.

Galatians 1:6-8 KJV

O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that you should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been openly set forth, crucified among you?

Galatians 3:1 KJV

So do not let anyone make rules for you about eating and drinking or about a religious feast, a New Moon Festival or a Sabbath day. These things were like a shadow of what was to come. But what is true and real has come and is found in Christ. Do not let anyone disqualify you by making you humiliate yourself and worship angels. Such people enter into visions, which fill them with foolish pride because of their human way of thinking. Colossians 2:16-18 New Century Version

**The Bewitched Galatians:** The Galatians were "bewitched" by the Judaizers who insisted on circumcision and following the law instead of by faith in Jesus Christ which is a faith that works by love and thus fulfils the law of Christ.

The Colossian Heresy: The Colossians were worshiping angels and the spirit world to the detriment of the place that Christ should be. They were also insisting on eating and drinking rules and religious observances and

other outward observances. Finally, they were prideful and believed that they had a higher philosophy and knowledge than everyone else.

### DO PRESENT DAY "REVIVALS" HAVE ELEMENTS OF THE GALATIAN AND COLOSSIAN ERRORS?

### <u>Our Dilemma</u>

Judge not according to the appearance, <u>but judge righteous judgment.</u> John 7:24

OR

Saying, <u>Touch not mine anointed</u> and do my prophets no harm. 1<sup>st</sup> Chronicles 16:22

## **Our Dilemma In the Spiritual Climate of the Last Days**

For false Christs and false prophets shall rise and shall show signs and wonders to seduce, if it were possible, even the elect. Mark 13:22 See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary principles of the world, rather than according to Christ. Colossians 2:8

#### Derek Prince's Soulish Test from Protection from Deception

Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify us completely; and may our whole spirit, soul and body be preserved blameless at the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls us is faithful, who also will do it. Amen

1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 5:23-24

- The Spirit came from the in breathed breath of God. Adam's spirit died the moment he disobeyed God. It is born again when someone accepts Christ. The Spirit is capable of direct communion with God and worship. (1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 6:17)The Spirit alone is capable of true worship(John 4:23-24)
- 2. The Soul is that part of a person that is the individual ego that says "I will", "I won't", or "I feel". When the Spirit dies, the Soul becomes a rebel in rebellion to the Creator. The Soul consists of the mind, will and emotions. The Soul through repentance is reconciled to God. The Soul is capable of praise and thanksgiving.

3. The Body came from clay infused with divine life. When Adam fell, the Body became "corruptible" and subject to sickness, aging and ultimately death. When we are born again, the Body becomes a temple for the Holy Spirit.

Soulish people have become at home in this world. The soulish person says, "What's in this for me? The spiritual person says, "How can I glorify God?" Are these revivals focused on the power of Jesus to change lives or are they focused on feelings and emotions and getting my needs met at the expense of others?

#### **Our Safeguards-Some questions to ask**

- 1. Is what is happening in The Word of God? Revelation 22:17-18
- 2. Does the message bring Glory to Christ? Hebrews 12:1-2
- 3. Are Jesus and the Cross at the center or are experiences and sensational phenomena the center? 1 Corinthians 1:18
- 4. Is the prophetic voice humble or drawing attention to self? 1 Peter 5
- 5. Are angels being glorified? Colossians 2:18
- 6. Is there too much advertising of merchandise? Matthew 21:13
- 7. Do the speakers try to help the Holy Spirit and push you over? Psalm 119:128
- 8. Are you coerced or made guilty about giving? 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 9:7
- 9. Do they pray? 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 5:17
- 10.Do the speakers spend a good bit of time talking about their accomplishments? Isaiah 64:6
- 11.Is there talk about sin and repentance? Luke 15:7
- 12.Is the music trance-inducing music? 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 14:8
- 13.Do you feel uncomfortable? Isaiah 32:17
- 14.Did the speaker let the supernatural happen or did he try to make it happen? 2<sup>nd</sup> Thessalonians 2:7-12
- 15.1s the speaker under spiritual authority? Job 26:6
- 16.Do your spiritual authorities witness to the movement? Proverbs 11:14
- 17.Does the fruit remain? John 15:16

"Don't depend on an experience to keep you. It is not the blessing that keeps you; it is a person, the Lord Himself. You must abide in Christ. God never meant to give us any blessing that would fix us up so we could get along without Him. We must recognize our constant need of the Lord and depend continually on Jesus." E.N. Bell

#### Deception

Take heed that no man deceive you. Matthew 24:4, Mark 13:5, Luke 21:8 They shall deceive the very elect. Matthew 24:24

For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ but their own belly, and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the innocent. Romans 16:18

Let no man deceive you. Ephesians 5:6, 1st John 3:7

#### Some observations by Derek Prince

- 1. In the great revivals with signs and wonders by Wesley, Whitefield, Edwards, and Finney, there are similar characteristics. All of these men majored on strong preaching of God's Word. All made a strong call for repentance. There is no record that any of them laid hands on people.
- 2. Sometimes ministers in the supernatural realm are tempted to use spiritual gifts to manipulate or exploit or dominate people.
- 3. The Holy Spirit ALWAYS glorifies Jesus. Any spirit that focuses on the Holy Spirit and glorifies the Holy Spirit is not the Holy Spirit.
- 4. There is not a single example anywhere in the Scripture of praying to the Holy Spirit.
- 5. There is no passage in Scripture where the Holy Spirit causes any human being to behave like an animal. There was only one who was judged, not blessed, by God and made to behave like an animal(Nebuchadnezzar).
- 6. When we lose our vision of God and focus on God's servants, we are in great danger.
- 7. Most of what is called worship in the Charismatic movement is not worship at all. Often it is very self-centered: "God heal me. God bless me. God, make me feel good. God do this and God do that." It is egocentric; it is soulish.
- 8. Pride is the only sin about which the devil will not make you feel guilty.
- 9. Pride is the greatest single problem, the most common problem and the most destructive problem.