

Mercy Ministry to Reversionistic Believers

We are currently studying two mercy ministries of Contenders of the Faith recorded in (Jude 3, 22-23).

- **First mercy ministry** was to doubting unbelievers (Jude 22-23a)
- **Second mercy ministry** is to reversionistic believers (Jude 23b)

(Jude23b) “**On others** (de hos) **have mercy** (eleeo / p.a.impv.2pl) [command] **with** (en+inst. of assoc.) **fear** [phobos], **hating** (miseo / p.a.ptc.nplm) **even the garments** (ton chiton) [inner] **polluted** (spiloo / perf.p.ptc.asm) **by** (apo+ablative of source) **the flesh** (tes sarx) [OSN].”

Today's lesson is an extension of last Wednesday lesson. Last week we learned that the phrase, “garments polluted by the flesh,” was a way of describing a reversionistic believer's life style.

<p>This lesson will study <u>four characteristics</u> of a Reversionistic Believer</p>

1. Last week we learned that reversionism will define a person's life.

His life will become known by what area his old sin-nature (OSN) lust trend and cosmos diabolicus (CD) thinking connect in a pursuit of pleasure - for happiness (drunkard, drug addict, glutton, prostitute) (Gal.5:16-21; Heb.11:25; 2 Tim.3:4; Luke 8:14; Rom.6:19-22; 7:14-25).

The two sons in the parable of Luke 15 were described by two lust trends of their old sin-nature (OSN) and worldly thinking (CD) (cosmos diabolicus) (**Luke 15:1-3**) [note their life styles] (2 Tim.2:26).

- The younger son was described by a lascivious reversionistic lust trend of OSN (Luke 15:13, 30).
- The older son was described by an ascetic reversionistic lust trend of OSN (Luke 15:27-32).

It is also found in the parable of the two men who went to temple to pray (Luke 18:9) [note their life styles].

- Self-righteous religious Pharisee who viewed others with contempt was operating from an ascetic reversionistic lust trend of his OSN and CD (Luke 18:10-12).
- Self-proclaimed sinner tax collector who viewed himself in need of God's mercy was operating from a lascivious reversionistic lust trend of his OSN and CD (Luke 18:13-14).

2. All revisionists are carnal (sarkikos), but not all carnal believers are revisionists (1 Cor.3:1-3) (pneumatikos) [spiritual].

A carnal believer has given into temptation to gratify the lusts of their OSN (James 1:13-14; Gal.5:16).

Recovery is confession of personal sin (1 John 1:8-9) that comes from biblical knowledge of sin (Rom.3:20) and a self-consciousness of grieving (Eph.4:30) and quenching the Indwelling Holy Spirit. (1 Thess.5:18).

3. What occurs when the carnal believer rejects the word of God regarding sin, the grieving - quenching of indwelling Holy Spirit, and the confession of sin?

He enters into a state of carnality and into reversionism because of negative volition. When this occurs, a **matiaotes vacuum** opens in his soul to cosmos diabolicus evil thinking.

(Eph.4:17) “So this I say, and affirm together with the Lord, that you walk no longer just as the Gentiles also walk, in the futility (matiaotes) [vain, empty of divine interest] of their mind.”

Matiaotes (vacuum) becomes the conduit for CD evil thinking. Note the following two examples.

- **Eve is a warning example to us:** (Gen.2:9, 17; 3:5, 13)
 - (2 cor.11:3) “But I am afraid that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be led astray from the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ.” (2 Tim.2:26)

- **Exodus wilderness generation is another warning example to us:**
 - (Heb.3:12) “Take care, brethren, that there not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God.” (Heb.3-4; 1 Cor.10:1-13)

4. The road of reversionism is disaster to the believer who chooses to travel it!

(Heb.12:5-11) [Divine Discipline] “And with whom was He angry for 40 years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness?” (**Heb.3:17**; Num.14:29; 1 Cor.10:5; 1 John 5:16)

Recovery begins with confession of sin and then putting OFF the Old Man Cosmos Diabolicus thinking (OMCD) [worldly thinking] by renewing the mind with the word of God, basic Categorical Bible Doctrine. (CBD) (Eph.4:22-23; Rom.12:2; **Heb.5:11-14**).

It will require putting ON New Man Divine Viewpoint (NMDV) thinking (Col.3:1-3) by renewing your priorities and values and pleasures in life based on the word of God (1 Cor.2:12-16; Rom.8:5-8; Eph.4:23-24).

It will also require reestablishing consistent Primary Positive volition, making it a priority to sit and take in Categorical Bible Doctrine (CBD) on a consistent basis (Heb.10:25; 2 Tim.3:16) and by practicing walking by means of Indwelling Holy Spirit (Gal.5:16-17, 25).