

1 Corinthians 12 (9-9-12)

THE CHARISMATIC SEDUCTION

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TEXT: 1 Corinthians 12:1 Now concerning **spiritual** gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant.

Romans 7:14 For we know that the law is **spiritual**: but I am **carnal**, sold under sin.

Romans 15:27...For if the Gentiles have been made partakers of **their spiritual things**, their duty is also to minister unto them in **carnal things**.

1 Corinthians 9:11 If we have sown unto you **spiritual things**, is it a great thing if we shall reap your **carnal things**?

14 Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach **the gospel** should live of the gospel.

Romans 8:6 For to be **carnally minded** is death; but to be **spiritually minded** is life and peace.

1 Corinthians 3:1 And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto **spiritual**, but as unto **carnal**, even as **unto babes** in Christ.

2 Timothy 3:1 This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

3...incontinent...

4...highminded...lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;

5 **Having a form of godliness**, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

6 For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and **lead captive silly women** laden with sins, led away with divers lusts,

1 Corinthians 14:20 Brethren, **be not children in understanding**: howbeit in malice be ye children, but **in understanding be men**.

Romans 12:3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but **to think soberly**, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

Galatians 6:3 For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself.

Proverbs 25:14 Whoso **boasteth himself of a false gift** is like clouds and wind without rain.

Ephesians 4:14 That we henceforth be **no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine**, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

Jude 1:8 Likewise also these filthy dreamers defile the flesh, despise dominion...

12 These are spots in your feasts of charity, when they feast with you, feeding themselves without fear: **clouds they are without water, carried about of winds...**

Luke 7:31 And the Lord said, Whereunto then shall I liken the men of this generation? and to what are they like?

32 They are like unto children sitting in the marketplace, and calling one to another, and saying, We have piped unto you, and ye have not danced; we have mourned to you, and ye have not wept.

1 Corinthians 12:1 Now concerning **spiritual** gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant.

2 Ye know that ye **were Gentiles**, carried away unto these dumb idols, even as **ye were led**.

1 Corinthians 14:12 Even so ye, forasmuch as ye are zealous of spiritual gifts, seek that ye may excel **to the edifying of the church**.

20 Brethren, be not children in understanding: howbeit in malice be ye children, but in understanding be men.

22 Wherefore tongues are for a sign, not to them that believe, but to them that believe not...

33 For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.

34 Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law.

35 And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church.

37 If any man think himself to be a prophet, **or spiritual**, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord.

38 But if any man be ignorant, let him be ignorant.

1 Timothy 2:11 Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection.

12 But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence.

13 **For** Adam was first formed, then Eve.

14 And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.

15 Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness **with sobriety**.

"The Sibyl, with frenzied mouth uttering things not to be laughed at..."

(Heraclitus, 5th century B.C.)

Montanus (AD 135 -AD 177):

He claimed inspiration. He had two female colleagues, Prisca (or Priscilla) and Maximilla, who also claimed inspiration, etc. Their followers called themselves *spiritales* (spiritual people)!:

"And he [Montanus] became beside himself, and being suddenly in a sort of frenzy and ecstasy, he raved, and began to babble and utter strange things, prophesying in a manner contrary to the constant custom...handed down by tradition from the beginning."

(Eusebius, *Ecclesiastical History*, Book 5)

Montanists were also called Cataphrygians. They claimed that Priscilla had seen "Christ" visiting her while she was in bed, in *the appearance of a woman dressed in white*:

"Among them, women are bishops...and they say **nothing makes a difference**, 'For in Christ Jesus there is neither male nor female.'"

(Epiphanius)

"Some of those who heard his spurious utterances at that time were indignant, and they rebuked him as one...that was under the control of a demon...But others imagining themselves possessed of the Holy Spirit and of prophetic gifts...Thus, by artifice...the devil, devising destruction for the disobedient...secretly excited and inflamed their understandings which had already become estranged from the true faith. And he stirred up besides two women, and filled them with the false spirit, so that they talked wildly and unreasonable and strangely, like the person already mentioned."

(Eusebius)

"We declare to you then, that these first prophetesses, as soon as they were filled with the spirit, left their husbands....Does a [true] prophet dye his hair? Does a prophet use stibium [paint] on his eyes?...these practices have occurred among them."

(Apollonius of Ephesus)

-The later Mystics taught that they can realize that they are "one with God" in all of nature (pantheism); and that man is Divine through mystical [non-rational] awareness, etc. Many were women.

-The Shakers - 1780's; The Irvingites - early 1800s; Ellen G. White - mid-1800s, etc.

-The Azuza Street, "Pentecostal" Movement:

"...Breathing strange utterances, and mouthing a creed which it would seem no mortal could understand, the newest religious sect has started in Los Angeles...devotees of the weird doctrine practice the most fanatical rites, preach the wildest theories, and work themselves into a state of mad excitement...night is made hideous in the neighborhood by the howlings of the worshippers who spend hours swaying back and forth in a nerve racking attitude of prayer and supplication. They claim to have the 'gift of tongues' and be able to comprehend the babel...pandemonium breaks loose, and the bounds of reason are passed by the those who are 'filled with the spirit,' whatever that may be.""

(*Los Angeles Times*, April 18, 1906)

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-Charles Fox Parham (1873-1929):

Parham founded the Apostolic Faith movement in Kansas. Publisher of *Apostolic Faith* periodical. Many believed that God used Parham to restore the Apostolic gifts in 1901. William Seymour (1870-1922) was a black student of Charles Parham's Bible school. Seymour saw Parham as the father of the new movement. Seymour was licensed to preach by Parham, and sent to Los Angeles. In 1906, Parham came to Los Angeles to visit Seymour. He reproved the movement there, and rebuked it for being taken over by hypnotists and spiritualists (as other witnesses testify):

"I sat on the platform of the Azusa Street Mission, and saw manifestations of the flesh...people practicing hypnotism at the altar..."

(Parham)

"[They are]...chattering, jabbering, and sputtering, speaking no language at all."

(Parham)

"Those who have had experience of fanaticism know that there goes with it an unteachable spirit and spiritual pride which makes those under the influences of these false spirits feel exalted and think that they have a greater experience than any one else, and do not need instruction or advice."

-After being accused of leaving his first wife, and family, in 1907, Parham was charged with sodomy in San Antonio, Texas.

"[It is] the last vomit of Satan."

(G. Campbell Morgan)

"[The new Pentecostal Movement is]...emphatically not of God, and founded by a Sodomite."

(R.A. Torrey)

"...the conduct of those possessed, in which they fall to the ground and writhe in contortions, causing disarrangement's of the clothing and disgraceful scenes, is more a characteristic of demon possession, than a work of the Holy Spirit...we see that we are living in 'Perilous Times,' and that all about us are 'Seducing Spirits,' and that they will become more active as the Dispensation draws to its close, and that we must exert the greatest care lest we be led astray."

(Clarence Larkin)

-Aimee Semple McPherson (1890-1944):

She was a California evangelist in the 1920s and 1930s, who founded the Foursquare Church. Her husband divorced her, in 1921, for abandonment. She was reportedly in and out of adulterous affairs. In one case, two people died searching for her, when it was reported that she had drowned. She later appeared, claiming she was kidnapped, and had escaped, hiking 13 miles. Yet her shoes showed no sign of a 13 hour hike. She could not show authorities the shack from which she supposedly escaped.

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Witnesses testified that she was actually seen in a cabin on the beach with a married man, and evidence of her handwriting was presented as evidence in a trial. Flappers appeared to encourage her in trial. Milton Berle also claimed to have had an affair with her. She had another divorce, and later died with a bottle of sedatives by her side.

Hannah Whitall Smith, *Religious Fanaticism*:

Notes published by her grandson, Ray Strachey, after her death:

"After careful study of the subject of Fanaticism, and a great deal of most intimate intercourse with the Fanatics, I have come to the conclusion that the whole explanation of it lies in the fact that the emotional nature is allowed absolute control...people take their inward impressions as being the voice of the Lord. I cannot speak too strongly about this. Every fanaticism that I have ever known has begun by the following of these inward impressions...I would, therefore, always urge every seeker after the deep things of God to ignore emotions and care only for convictions. Beware of impressions, beware of emotions, beware of physical thrills, beware of voices, beware of everything, in short, that is not according to the strict Bible standard and to your own highest reason."