

Nicolaitans Are Leading Us

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Many people recognize that our leaders have been introducing oppressive and intrusive measures that are harming their own citizens, and that the COVID-19 outbreak was a convenient opportunity for politicians to grant themselves powers that previously were beyond their grasp. However, this scenario is not unique to our time. In fact it has been the case, to greater and lesser degrees, throughout man's history. Despite this reality, God's word confirms that His faithful and obedient servants must set a very different example as we will see in the scriptures that follow.

As head of Almighty God's church, Jesus Christ made it very clear that anyone grasping for "power over other people" needed to examine their motives.

*Then the mother of Zebedee's sons came to him (Christ) with her sons, kneeling down and asking something from him. ²¹And he said to her, "What do you wish?" She said to him, "Grant that these two sons of mine may sit, one on your right hand and the other on the left, in your kingdom." ²²But Jesus answered and said, "You do not know what you ask. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink?" (referring to his death on a wooden stake) They said to him, "We are able." ²³So he said to them, "You will indeed drink my cup (suffer in a similar way); but to sit on my right hand and on my left is not mine to give, but **it is for those for whom it is prepared by my Father**" (Mt. 20:20-23; NKJV used throughout unless otherwise noted; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).*

According to Christ's command in Matthew 17:1-9, Peter, James, and John were not to share the vision they experienced, of Moses and Elijah,

with anyone until after his resurrection. Therefore, the possibility that Moses and Elijah might have responsibilities "to the right and left of Christ" following their resurrection, would not have been discussed. Because of Salome's attempt to gain a more prominent position for her two sons, the remaining ten disciples expressed their dissatisfaction.

And when the ten heard it, they were moved with indignation against the two brothers (Mt. 20:24).

In our society today, the phrase "jockeying for position" describes the attempts of certain people to elevate themselves above others. Quite often these actions create animosity that defeats the main purpose of leadership, which is to serve other people in a selfless manner and work toward a goal of peace and harmony between the citizenry of a county. This is the reason that Christ stated the following to his disciples.

*But Jesus called them to himself and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles **lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them.** ²⁶**Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant. ²⁷And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave – ²⁸just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life (as) a ransom for many"*** (Mt. 20:25-28; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).

In essence, Christ pointed out that true "servants of the people" are not concerned about their own position, power, or prestige. Instead, their number one objective is to serve and protect other people, to the best of their ability. Bearing this in mind, it should be no surprise that Christ said he "hated the deeds of the Nicolaitans", and anyone following their

example, or allowing them to affect other peoples' lives.

*Thus you also have those who hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitans, **which thing I hate.** ¹⁶Repent, or else I will come to you quickly and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth (Rev. 2:15-16; emphasis added).*

As the original New Testament was written in Greek, the word "Nicolaitans" should be examined using that language,

"Nico" means "victory"
"Laos" means "people or "laity"

Once these words are combined, "Nicolaitans" can mean "victory over the people" or "conquering of the laity", which echoes what Christ said his true servants should not be doing. Sadly in today's society, there are far too many examples of "conquering the people" through mask mandates, draconian business closures, vaccine mandates, canceling those who do not subscribe to the latest woke dogma, etc. Because many of our leaders are acting in this manner, "bread-winners" are losing their livelihoods and families are suffering. Is there any end in sight? Apparently not, because the door was opened for these abuses in 2010 when the Cabinet Office of David Cameron's government (in the UK) decided to apply the science of behavior to public policy. The main purpose behind this arm of the government was to influence public thinking and decision-making in order to improve compliance with government policy, openly and without embarrassing the leaders. Once these powers are granted and exercised is it very unlikely they will stop. If anything, they will grow exponentially and be adopted in various forms by other countries.

Similarly, it is well documented that leaders within religious organizations abuse "the laity" in a number of different ways because they have "power over their followers". Sadly, "the laity" are conditioned to follow whatever their leaders are telling them to do, including submitting to or covering up sexual abuse. In an October 5, 2021, article entitled "French clergy sexually abused over 200,000 children since 1950" by Tangi Salaun and Ingrid Melander, the following was stated,

"The church (of Rome) had shown deep and even cruel indifference for years, protecting itself rather than the victims of what was systemic abuse," said Jean-Marc-Sauve, head of the commission that compiled the report. Most of the victims were boys, he said, many of them aged between 10 and 13.

In the early church that developed after Christ's death and resurrection, there were some leaders who also abused their position. One of these was Diotrefes as the apostle John pointed out.

*I wrote to the church, but Diotrefes, who loves to have the preeminence among them, does not receive us. ¹⁰Therefore, if I come, I will call to mind his deeds which he does, **prating** (talking nonsense) **against us with malicious words. And not content with that, he himself does not receive the brethren, and forbids those who wish to, putting them out of the church** (3John 9-10; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).*

Threatening to throw people out of the church was a serious matter. It was a form of disenfranchisement similar to the cancel culture emanating from the United States of America where people can lose their livelihoods if they don't comply with the latest whims of the WOKE tyrants.

Even before Christ's crucifixion, the Jewish religious leaders were exercising their form of shaming and canceling anyone who opposed their agenda. They didn't even care if a person was blind, they were still quite content to punish them further for non-compliance. In the following abbreviated example, the Pharisees intimidated the parents of a blind man and then proceeded to toss him out of the synagogue.

*His (the blind man's) parents answered them (the Pharisees) and said, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; ²¹but by what means he now sees we do not know, or who opened his eyes we do not know. He is of age; ask him. He will speak for himself."²²**His parents said these things because they feared the Jewish religious leaders who had agreed already that if anyone confessed that he (Christ) was Messiah, he would be put out of the synagogue** (Jn. 9:20-22; Ed. notes in parentheses).*

Shortly after this exchange, the Pharisees, who were suffering from an extreme case of "Christ Derangement Syndrome", proceeded to expel the blind man from the local synagogue.

Then they said to him again, "What did he (Christ) do to you? How did he open your eyes?" ²⁷He answered them, "I told you already and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?"²⁸Then they reviled him and said, "You are his disciple, but we are Moses' disciples, ²⁹We know that God spoke to Moses; as for this fellow, we do not know where he is from."³⁰The (blind) man answered and said to them, "Why, this is a marvelous thing, that you do not know where he is from, and yet he has opened my eyes! ³¹Now we know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, he hears him. ³²Since the world began it has been unheard of that anyone opened the eyes

of one who was born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing" (Jn. 9:26-33; Ed. notes in parentheses).

Next, with no proof at all and in a state of rage, these Jewish religious leaders accused the blind man's parents of committing sins that caused his blindness, and then "canceled" him by throwing him out of the local synagogue because he exposed their hypocrisy.

They answered and said to him, "You were completely born in sins, and are you teaching us?" And they cast him out (excommunicated him) (Jn. 9:34; Ed. note in parenthesis).

Were these Nicolaitans, disguised as upstanding religious leaders, content with just kicking someone out of the synagogue? Hardly, their addiction to power could never be satiated. It would stop at nothing, including murdering innocent people who exposed their lies and hypocrisy.

*Then a great many of the Jews knew that he (Christ) was there; and they came, not for Jesus' sake only, but that they might also see Lazarus, whom he (Christ) had raised from the dead. ¹⁰But **the chief priests took counsel that they might also put Lazarus to death, ¹¹because on account of him many of the Jews went away and believed in Jesus** (Jn. 12:9-11; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).*

It is the same today if anyone gets in the way of the elitists' agenda. Lives lost don't matter,

*PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) – Once hailed as one of the most livable U.S. cities, Portland, Oregon, is grappling with an uncertain future as it reaches a stunning benchmark: 100 consecutive nights of racial injustice protests marred by vandalism, chaos – and **the killing of a supporter of President Donald***

Trump (by Gillian Flaccus; September 4, 2020).

Another tactic used by modern Nicolaitans is the weaponizing of various government agencies against anyone who does not agree with the current administration's agenda. In a recent U.S. Senate hearing, Senator Josh Hawley questioned the Attorney General Merrick Garland about the use of Department of Justice resources to target parents who are against mask mandates or the indoctrination of their children with Critical Race Theory. The following is a brief excerpt that included the picture of a parent who was arrested for protesting the rape of his teenage daughter, and the cover up that followed,

Senator Josh Hawley: *This is a father from Loudoun County and here he is at a school board meeting. He was forcibly restrained, assaulted, and arrested. Why? Because he went to an elected school board meeting to raise the fact that his daughter was sexually assaulted in a girl's restroom by a boy. Do you think parents who show up to complain about their children being assaulted ought to be treated like this man?*

Next, Senator Hawley addressed the attempt by the Attorney General to target parents with various charges if they spoke out at future school board meetings,

Senator Josh Hawley: *I will leave it at this, Mr. Garland. You have weaponized the FBI and the Department of Justice. **Your U.S. attorneys are now collecting and cataloging all the ways that they might prosecute parents, like Mr. Smith, because they want to be involved in their children's education and they want to have a say in their elected officials. It's wrong, unprecedented in the history of this country, and I call on you to resign*** (breitbart.com/clips/2021/10/27/josh-

hawley-tells-merrick-garland-to-resign-for-weaponizing-doj-against-parents/; emphasis added).

It's quite amazing how modern leaders have forgotten the lessons of history. Specifically, that a population will only tolerate draconian control measures, manipulation, and coercion by their "Nicolaitan leaders" for so long. At some point the people wake up and refuse to tolerate this abusive behavior, especially when it is combined with economic hardship. And, with inflation quickly rising in the U.S., and other countries around the world, these leaders may soon find themselves in trouble even though they believe they can maintain their power by walking in lockstep with each other. History will soon record that this is not going to preserve their power, and it will be no surprise to those praying for Christ's eminent return that the end of man's many forms of abusive governance is coming to a permanent end. May Almighty God, the Father, speed that day (see study: *New World Leaders "In Waiting"*).

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