

A WARNING TO SONS: THE HOUSE IS UNDER INSPECTION

See Ezekiel 33:1-9; 40:1-4; 43:6-12; Acts 20:26-31; Colossians 1:25-28; Rev. 1:12-20.

Sin is a "mistaken identity"; it means "to miss the mark". Beware of the following:

1. The Disloyal Spirit Of Absalom - disloyalty surfaces when personal ambition and unresolved offense leads to unforgiveness. Bitterness, unrighteous judgment and criticism can lead to a spirit of disloyalty; 2 Samuel 15:1-6.
 - a. Absalom "nursed an offense"; he revolted against his own father, stole the hearts of the people, and conspired to take over the throne.
 - b. This spirit influences a person to usurp God's order; it hinders the flow of the "spirit of adoption; Rom. 8:15.
 - c. The way to deal with selfish ambition is to maintain a "servant's heart", believe the best of one another, have a team mentality, and stay "Kingdom focused".

2. The Rebellious Spirit Of Korah - finds entrance into the life of a person who opposes God-given authority, order and boundaries, and openly challenges them, due to a desire for recognition and power to rule; Numb. 16:1-3, 8-12.
 - a. This spirit influences a person to plot against others when they see the flaws in their leaders; it convinces them that they can stand in a leadership position which God has not called them to fulfill; see 1 Timothy 2:1-3.
 - b. This spirit stirs up the people to start a civil or spiritual rebellion against God-given authority and boundaries, which are designed to protect us; Rom. 13:1.
 - c. When God-given authority is abused by leaders, God will remove that one from a place of authority, as He did with Saul and king Uzziah; 2 Chron. 26:16-21.

3. Elitism - like "Nicolaitanism", is an aristocracy of the "spiritually elite", who take too much authority upon themselves. It has ties to Balaam, and is snared with the love of money; it rules over the people, instead of serving them; Rev. 2:14-15.
 - a. These are "kings on the thrones" of independent, fenced-off kingdoms, who build walls between the clergy and the people; Luke 18:9-14.
 - b. Their spiritual knowledge or position have caused some to become celebrities; there is a desire for recognition, a love for pre-eminence; 3 John 1:9-10.
 - c. There is a difference between a mentor and a "father". A true spiritual father or mother is available for their children at all times; they are approachable, they nurture their children, and have healthy communication with them.

4. The Murderous Spirit Of Cain - begins with negative thinking toward a brother; it is the end result of unresolved anger and jealousy over an act of "worship"; Gen. 4:3-8.
 - a. This spirit rises up against a brother to destroy him - his credibility, his reputation, or his name; James 1:14-15.
 - b. It is possible to spiritually harm or "kill" a person; you can murder and curse another with slanderous words; Prov. 18:21.
 - c. If you talk negatively about your brethren, "ripping them apart", devouring one another, it is "spiritual cannibalism"; Gal. 5:15.