

## Warning Signs

### **2Cor 6:12 (ESV)**

**12 You are not restricted by us, but you are restricted in your own affections.**

The KJV for restricted is straightened, which means to be hemmed in.

How many times have we heard from people who walk away from the church play the blame game? The church this, the church that, the church, the church, the church, it's all the church... Whether it is blaming the doctrine, the people, or the leadership of the church. It is all the church.

The apostle Paul addressed this in v.12 when he said, you are not restricted by us, you are restricted in your own affections. What was he saying, "You're not hemmed in by us (this isn't a church problem), you are hemmed in in your own affections... The definition of affection is: fond attachment, devotion, or love.

### Prv 23:7

7 For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he: Eat and drink, saith he to thee; but his heart is not with thee.

The problem doesn't lie with the church, the problem lies in the human heart.

### Jer 17:7-10

7 Blessed is the man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose hope the LORD is.

8 For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit.

9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

10 I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.

The heart is the seat of our emotions and passions. Deception knows no age limits, affections know no age limits. That is why we need to have a consistent prayer life; we need to be reading and studying the Word of God; we need to be in the house of God; if it is either by being in the physical house of God, or by listening to every on-line service the church has. Preaching still saves.

Ps 119:11

11 Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

If there has ever been a time that we need a revival of reading and studying the Word of God, it is today. As Apostolics, we should be more knowledgeable about the Word of God than anyone.

Hos 4:6

6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

Destroyed in the Hebrew is: to be dumb or silent; hence to fail or perish; transitively to destroy.

As an Apostolic parent, I owe it to my children to read and study the Word of God so that if my children try to circumvent Apostolic Doctrine—I won't sit there silently because I have no knowledge of how to respond to their behavior. Apostolic responsibility is severely lacking in the church; parents want the pastor to be the disciplinarian, but as an Apostolic parent, I need to take the initiative and be responsible in what it is that the Lord wants me to do. Train up my children in the way they should go... I can't sit there silently while the enemy comes into my house like a flood. There are far too many times we sit dumbfounded about what is going on in our homes or our churches. Can it be because there is a lack of Bible knowledge in our homes?

Col 3:1-2

1 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.

Let it start in me...

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