

- i. Characteristics of negative volition toward doctrine:
- (1) Indifference or apathy toward Bible teaching from a pastor-teacher.
 - (2) Wrong priorities means you're too busy to consistently hear doctrine taught. There are so many distractions today to pull you from Bible class. Wrong priorities doesn't mean the things we like and do are wrong, but that they're wrong when we put them before Bible doctrine.
 - (3) Antagonism or personality conflict with a pastor who is actually teaching doctrine. Due to having your eyes on the pastor and resenting him in some way, you don't hear what he's saying and so miss the content of the message. The Holy Spirit is the solution here, for He gives you the power and ability to hear what is said rather than how it is said, or by whom it is said.
 - (4) Failure to learn and to utilize the problem-solving devices of the protocol plan of God. For example, spiritual phenomena cannot be understood by the believer who fails to use rebound.
 - (5) Lack of concentration and ignorance of good manners. Poor manners are a manifestation of thoughtlessness of other people. You cannot listen and talk in Bible class at the same time. Talking also distracts other people and breaks their concentration.
 - (6) Inability to cope with prosperity or adversity. When people become prosperous, they often are distracted from doctrine. Or when people cannot cope with adversity,
 - (7) Failure to understand your very own portfolio of invisible assets they often seek psychological solutions.

6. Blackout of the Soul

Ephesians 4:17 gives the technical Greek word for the blackout of the soul: **ματαιότης** (*mataiótēs*): Negative volition creates a vacuum that sucks in false doctrine into the soul.

Ephesians 4:17 Therefore, I communicate this, and because of the Lord, I insist that you no longer walk as Gentiles [i.e., unbelievers] walk in the vacuum of their mind.



- (A) Through this vacuum comes the doctrine of demons, including religionism, liberalism, crusader arrogance, and anti-establishment thinking (1 Timothy 4:1).
- (a) The false doctrine passing through the vacuum of the soul is called demon influence, or being influenced by evil. This is not the same as demon possession; in many ways, it is worse.
 - (b) The believer cannot be demon possessed because he is indwelt by God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.
 - (c) But demon influence comes through false teaching.
 - (d) The believer's body is the temple of the Holy Spirit whether he's out of or in fellowship.
 - (e) Although the believer cannot be demon possessed, he is vulnerable to demon influence which comes from permanent negative volition: stage six of reversionism.
 - (1) Infiltration of the doctrine of demons results in the blackout of the soul. This comes from failure to be filled with the Spirit, and lack of consistent exposure to Bible doctrine.
 - (2) The blackout of the soul is tantamount to God-relationship fragmentation. God-relationship fragmentation is failure to execute the protocol plan of God through neglect of post-salvation epistemological rehabilitation, and failure to learn and use the portfolio of invisible assets and the problem-solving devices.
- B. The apostle John describes blackout of the soul in:
- (1) **John 12:35c** Jesus said to them, "... he who walks in the darkness does not know where he goes."
 - (2) **1 John 1:6** If we contend that we have fellowship with Him and we keep on walking in darkness, we are lying and we do not practice the truth.
 - (3) **1 John 2:11** When anyone hates his fellow believer, he is in darkness and he walks in darkness, and he does not know where he is going because the darkness has blinded his eyes.
 - (4) The blackout of the soul indicates ignorance of Bible doctrine, cosmic involvement, and the replacement of Bible doctrine with false doctrine.

- (5) The vacuum of the soul, mentioned in Ephesians 4:17, is the channel created by negative volition and implosion, through which false doctrine enters into the soul of the believer.
- (6) The mechanics of the blackout of the soul include:
 - (1) Implosion or self-fragmentation toward sin-nature trends.
 - (2) Explosion or polarized fragmentation toward legalism.
 - (3) Fragmentation toward categories of subjective arrogance.
- (7) Even the unbeliever, by being negative toward the gospel, has blackout of the soul.

2 Corinthians 4:3 Even if our gospel is hidden, it is hidden to those who are perishing, in whose case the god of this world [**Satan**] has blinded the minds of those who are unbelieving that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ who is the image of God.

7. Scar Tissue of the Soul

Ephesians 4:18 They are darkened in their way of thinking; they have been alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance which is in them, because of the scar tissue of their *kardías*.

- (1) Scar tissue of the soul is prolonged residence in the cosmic system. It is prolonged fragmentation unchecked, reaction to any form of accurate Bible teaching, and strong reaction to those who communicate accurately the mystery doctrine of the Church Age.
- (2) This is tantamount to paralyzing the valves of the heart, so that there is no more circulation of doctrine in the frame of reference, memory center, vocabulary storage, categorical storage, conscience, momentum department, wisdom department, and subconscious mind.
- (3) The Scripture calls scar tissue of the soul “hardness of heart,” “hardening of the neck,” or “hardening of the face.”
 - (a) “Hardened their heart” is a quote by Isaiah cited by John in:

John 12:40 “He [**God**] has blinded their eyes with the result that they continue that way and hardened their heart, so that they would not see with their eyes and perceive with their heart, and be converted and I heal them.” (NKJV)