

The Life and Death of Mr. Badman

December 11th, 2016 - The Life and Death of Mr. Badman

Chapter 7, Part 3 - He Throws Off The Mask And Cruelly Treats His Wife (pages 62-65)

Most of us know what a chameleon is. Being from the lizard species, some are able to change colours to adapt to their environment or to become camouflaged to predators. In its application to people a definition is; a person who changes their opinions or behaviour according to the situation. Mr. Badman would be likened then to a chameleon from what we've read today. Taking a quote from the book it says this of him; *"He would often please himself with the thoughts of what he would do in this matter, thinking to himself, "I can be religious or irreligious; I can be anything or nothing; I can swear and speak against swearing; I can lie, and speak against lying; I can drink, womanise, be unclean, and defraud, and not be troubled by it. Now I enjoy myself, and am master of my own ways and not they of me. This I have attained after much study, great care, and more pains." But this he said only to himself, or to his wife who, he knew, dare not divulge it, or among his intimates to whom he knew he could say anything."* Badman could spin opinions, ideas or beliefs on a dime without batting an eye. As long as it came to money, business and getting his way, he'd do anything to get it as he lived a double life. Last week we said that he turned informant on his wife and was like a Mafioso hiring hit men to persecute his wife's fellow Christian brothers and sisters. Why? All to save face, business and money. He personified a chameleon.

Mark 7:18-23 says this; *"So He said to them, "Are you thus without understanding also? Do you not perceive that whatever enters a man from outside cannot defile him, because it does not enter his heart but his stomach, and is eliminated, thus purifying all foods?" And He said, "What comes out of a man, that defiles a man. For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness. All these evil things come from within and defile a man."* The outward actions of a man or woman, only reflect what's already inside of them. Wiseman goes on to say the following; *"For the law judges men, as I said, according to what they want to be. He that "looketh on a woman to lust after her, hath committed adultery with her already in his heart" (Mt. 5:28). By the same rule, whoever wants to steal does steal; whoever wants to cheat, does cheat; whoever wants to swear, does swear; and whoever wants to commit adultery, does so. God judges men according to the working of their minds, and says, "As he thinks, so is he" (Prov. 23:7)." Jesus exposed the source of where sin was coming from, He judges the heart and mind. That's why we're reminded over and over in the Bible to set our minds on things above, on Christ Jesus, on things holy, pure, righteous, on God's word, which is the sure word of prophecy.*

Every area of your life requires you to seek God and get His mind regarding it; whether it be your health, finances, family, marriage, children, work etc. You're not to rely on your own mind and thoughts regarding these things. **Jeremiah 17:9-10** says; *"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it? I, the Lord, search the heart, I test the mind, even to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his doings."* The heart and mind are intertwined with each other. The mind, naturally in its fallen state, Christian or non-Christian, is at enmity with God. God searches the two of them, heart and mind. The mind is always influencing the heart. That's why you're to RENEW your mind as it says in **Romans 12:2**, *"And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."* The mind is the battle ground, ground zero to where the enemy launches his fiery darts and flaming missiles. **Colossians 3:2** says; *"Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth."* Even as a Christian, you have daily battles going on in your mind but your to take captive every thought to the obedience of Christ according to **II Corinthians 10:5**.

Wiseman goes on to say; *"The heart, and its desperate wickedness, is the foundation and ground-work of everything. Atheism, professed and practical, springs from the heart, yes, and with all kinds of evil beside. It is not bad deeds that make a bad man, but he is already a bad man who does bad deeds. A man must be wicked before he can do wickedness. "Wickedness proceedeth from the wicked" (1 Sam. 24:13). It is an evil tree that bears evil fruit. Men gather no grapes from thorns; so the heart, therefore, must be evil before the man can do evil, and good before the man does good. (Mt. 7:16-18)" **Matthew 23:25-28** says; "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you cleanse the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of extortion and self-indulgence. Blind Pharisee, first cleanse the inside of the cup*

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and dish, that the outside of them may be clean also. "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which indeed appear beautiful outwardly, but inside are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness. Even so you also outwardly appear righteous to men, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness." These were spit polished clean religious leaders on the outside to the natural eye, but Jesus saw through their hypocrisy. Jesus wasn't addressing these leaders as Christians...he was addressing them as children of the devil as he said in **John 8:44**. **I John 2:3-6** says; "Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him. He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked." What does hypocrite mean; a pretender, a deceiver, a liar, a phony, a fraud, a sham or a fake. That's what Jesus was calling these religious leaders because he saw through their actions to their hearts and minds and their outward appearance weren't the same as their hearts. Likewise Badman was of the same nature as his chameleon words, actions and deeds were one thing at home but in public, he put on a show so no one suspected his duality.

So how do you know if the religious leaders in your life are speaking from the Spirit of the Lord or not? Or for that matter, the voices you hear in your mind that are influencing your heart regarding decisions that you're making if they're of the Spirit of the Lord or not? If Mrs. Badman would have been more astute in the Spirit before they were married, she would have gone to this verse in **I John 4:1-3** and asked her boyfriend to speak it out loud to her. It says; "Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God, and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world." Badman would NOT have been able to say that Jesus Christ had come in the flesh and was of God! He wasn't a Christian. The devil had gotten a hold of his tongue, he became a chameleon and became to her all that she wanted her future husband to be! But because she was letting her heart (which is deceitful above all else) rule her, she didn't renew her mind in the Word of God, the adversary gained access and we see the painful havoc he reeked in her life.

What about the prophecies or a word of knowledge you've had spoken over you? You need to TEST the spirit whether it's of God. TEST the voices that are speaking in your mind. Do they line up with the Word of God? You see we run into problems in our life when we let our heart and mind guide us and NOT the Holy Spirit of God. Just because something has been "your" heart's desire or "always in your mind" to do such and such, doesn't mean that's what the Lord Jesus wants for you. It could be a total snare down the road for you or just something of your fleshly appetite. If you really want to be a true disciple, every thought, decision, action needs to be weighed against the Word of God and in prayer to see if the spirit of that thought you have is really from God or not. If it isn't, the Bible says as we read, that it's an Antichrist spirit speaking to your mind and heart.

James 1:21-25 says; "Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls. But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does." If the Bible has spoken to you once or time and time again, but you haven't acted on it, here it says you're deceiving yourself, because if there is not action to the revelation you've received, it's just been emotional sentiment in your heart. Again it comes to the heart. If your heart has been changed, you will act on what you've heard in the Word of God.

Jude 3-4 says; "Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints. For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ." **Jude 16-19** continues to says; "These

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are grumblers, complainers, walking according to their own lusts; and they mouth great swelling words, flattering people to gain advantage. But you, beloved, remember the words which were spoken before by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ: how they told you that there would be mockers in the last time who would walk according to their own ungodly lusts. These are sensual persons, who cause divisions, not having the Spirit." Mr. Badman was one seeking to gain advantage, void of the Spirit of God.

So we see the chameleon that Badman was and how it's operative in the lives of even religious people to gain advantage. We've also learned about how extremely important it is to weigh our thoughts and heart according to the Word of God. So I'd like to challenge the mentality and philosophy that's out there today when you hear sayings like these; stay true to your heart or your heart will always be right or be led by your heart, don't believe it. We read above in **Jeremiah 17:9-10** that the heart is deceitful and desperately wicked above all things, so we can't hold true to this worldly mindset and philosophy. Only the Holy Spirit of God knows what His perfect will is; what is noble, true, just, pure, lovely, good, virtuous and praiseworthy as it says in **Philippians 4:8**. We don't intuitively know what God's will is. We'll only know if we're walking, abiding, meditating on, applying, being a doer of the Word of God, then we can have peace that our steps will be ordered of God. What are the sins that you're struggling with that have been mentioned in the above scriptures? The Word of God promises deliverance for you. Get into the Bible, read it, study it, meditate in it. You will know the truth and the truth will set you free.

I'd like to end on **Matthew 7:21-23**; *"Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity."* If the heavenly Father will say, 'I don't know you', then we need to TEST those coming in His name to us, speaking great swelling words in our ears and minds to see if they are of Him.