## THE SEDUCTION OF POWER

March 2024

Since the creation of mankind, they have had a desire to rule. It was first given by God to Adam and Eve, as they were given dominion over creation and its creatures - Genesis 1:26. However, there was one caveat, they were to remain in submission under God. Thousands of years later we see that Jesus operated under this principle. He was subservient to God the Father and thus was given authority over all things contrary to the kingdom of God.

History is filled with leaders in various realms of society who did not live under God's authority. They inevitably were seduced by their own pride and power and thus turned into various degrees of tyranny over their subjects. Bible examples are Egyptian Pharoahs, Babylonian kings. the Caesars of Rome, the Jewish Pharisees etc. Their lust for power comes from the original rebel himself, the angel of light (Lucifer) who turned into Satan, the adversary of all that is good and holy. Jesus called him the 'father of lies'.

Jesus showed us that true leaders are servants and lead by example and draw people through love and their great ideas. False leaders do not lead, they drive people and rule people through fraud, fear and force. They do not feed the people but feed off of them. In our modern day era we see how Marxists, Communists, collectivists, globalists, elitists and other dimwits operate in the same manner. They lecture us about how to live and then live the opposite. They preach freedom while they make us slaves who are dependent upon them.

Back in 1984, I spent a year in Belgium leading an evangelism team to reach the 30,000 students at the largest Roman Catholic University in Europe. There are Catholics who know and love the Lord but I came to understand more fully the system of their religion. Liberal politicians in various countries desire to keep their constituents 'dependent on the government' instead of learning self-government. In a similar way, much of Catholicism is a form of a 'spiritual welfare system' where the hierarchy wants their people to depend more on mother church than on Christ and Father God. They fear giving too much freedom to the masses. (we see this came to a head during the Protestant Reformation in the 1600's.)

Leo Proot, a former Catholic who was converted to Christ by an OM team (Operation Mobilization) a few years before, had become our OM mission leader in Belgium. During our orientation training, he told us that before the 1960's, the Catholics there were discouraged from reading the Bible. Most people in North America do not realize that Catholicism in Europe and S. America has more icons, images and syncretism than seen here, where there is a stronger evangelical influence. For example, in my little village of about 800 people in upstate N.Y., the Catholic church has used Sunday School materials from the local Baptist church!

I have done door to door visitation to hundreds of homes in Europe. One time I met a lady at her door and asked her if she was a Christian. She responded vociferously with these words: "No, I am a Catholic!" She was wedded to the church but perhaps not to Christ.

It seems strange to me that people with great wealth seem unhappy unless they can exert great power over us 'common folks'. We will look at some of these people in fuller detail in coming messages. Bill Gates, George Soros, Klaus Schwab, Larry Fink etc. Many world political leaders have been compromised and corrupted into serving their puppet leaders. The lust for power, riches and glory consumes them. Jesus faced the same temptation in the desert from <u>Satan, who offered him the kingdoms of this world</u>. - Matthew 4:8-9. He resisted, knowing that one day he would rule the world, but only in the time appointed by his Father in heaven. Jesus is a servant leader, the only one worthy to rule the world.

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