

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

EVIL SPIRITS WORKING IN SECRECY

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PART 2: CRITICAL SPIRITS

CRITICAL SPIRITS

These are powerful demons which can be likened to "stealth fighters." They try to get close to their target without being detected, and once the damage is done, leave as quickly as possible. These demons will cloak themselves as righteous spirits of judgment, and refer themselves to the following Bible verses:

- Fruit inspectors - **Matthew 7:16-20**
- Moral church police - **1 Corinthians 5:1-13**

Jesus knew that critical spirits would attack the church. **Matthew 7:1-5**

The apostle Peter took upon himself to correct Jesus, the Son of God, and he was promptly put in his place by Jesus himself. **Matthew 16:20-23**

For some reason, many people who have been set free from alcohol, nicotine, and other drugs are extremely intolerant of other people who do the same. They demand absolute perfection in others, and if they cannot find it, the person attacked is severely condemned. This goes against the Word of God. **James 1:19-20**

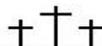
Family members are often ruthless against each other. We must come to understand that there is certain doctrinal truth, like the Ten Commandments (**Exodus 20:1-17**), which cannot be altered and then there are choices which God allows a believer in Christ. **Romans 14:1-23**

The Pharisees had no intention of repenting from their sins. To defend their positions, they severely criticized Jesus. Jesus could see right through them and he addressed them hard in **Matthew 23:1-33**.

Christians must also come to understand, that a newborn baby in Christ or a person who has just been through deliverance, needs to be nourished and taught. This person is not ready to "straighten up" everybody in the Church. They must understand, that just as a patient who has been operated on for cancer by a medical doctor, is in no condition a few days after the surgery to teach the doctor "how to perform surgery." **Ephesians 4:11-18**

COMMON PITFALLS FOR A CHRISTIAN ATTACKED BY CRITICAL SPIRITS

1. A person who has been delivered from any type of substance abuse usually has spent all his money and efforts on the drug. Therefore they usually have few material possessions, driving an old run-down car and in most cases have lost their employment. Once they begin to know other people in the church, the spirit of jealousy and envy strikes them and they develop resentment over the fact that other people have homes, good cars, nice jobs,



etc. Critical spirits get hold of them, and suddenly they are attacking other church members accusing them of being greedy and worldly. What they do not understand is that other church members might have walked with the Lord for years and spent their money wisely, not wasting it. If the delivered person gives themselves time, in due time God will bless them too. **Galatians 6:6-9**

2. Men and women, who have come out or are still in "bad" marriages, tend to develop jealousy and envy of couples who have good solid marriages. Again, critical spirits will move in and criticism starts. Statements like this one are common: "It is easy for you to serve God and have a good time." This is followed by a barrage of complaints of how bad things are "because I do not have a good spouse."
3. A person that is struggling with any kind of sinful habit will be merciless with others.
4. A former substance abuser tends to go overboard on health food and drinking water. They will have a zero tolerance in this area. Just because they smoked and drank for 30 years and have now changed, everyone else must change at once too or be hounded with criticism. Do they remember the love that was shown to them, while they were still struggling? Look at what Jesus said in **John 17:5-22**.
5. Most baby Christians will nitpick and move into perfectionism. They have moved from one extreme to the other. This creates "dragged-out hell-fights" between spouses.

The issues are so petty that they are "laughable," but they cause havoc in families.

- God looks at the heart. That does not mean that we can disregard God's laws. **Romans 3:23-31**
- Majoring in physical deeds and missing the spiritual truth makes a person into a modern day Pharisee. **Matthew 15:1-20**
- Let us remember **James 3:8-18**.

Do you have an ear with which to hear?