

American Decency Association

PO Box 202, Fremont, MI 49412 231-924-4050 www.americandecency.org

Encouraging Christians to guard their hearts

November 2008

Satan's Plan For the Church

By David Ravenhill. Taken from www.purelifeministries.org



I started thinking the other day about what I would do if I were the devil. (After reading this some of you may think I am!) The only opposition the devil has to fulfilling his great commission is the Church. If the Church can be rendered powerless then Satan's kingdom will flourish unhindered and unopposed. If I were the devil I would be carefully evaluating every possible way to accomplish this goal.

My first course of action would be to foster the belief that sin carries no consequences in the life of the believer. The devil knows that a sinning Church is a powerless Church. If he can convince Christians that they can sin with impunity, he knows their carnal desires will do the rest. And isn't this exactly what he told Eve in the Garden? His message that fateful day, "You shall not surely die," has remained his mantra ever since. Some denominations even go as far as having this as one of their major tenets of faith: If you have said the sinner's prayer, it

doesn't matter how you live, you can never be 'removed from the garden.'

One biblical picture of God's people losing their power is what happened when the Israelites attacked the city of *Ai*. After destroying the impregnable fortress of Jericho, this puny city should not have been a problem. But there was something the leaders didn't know: there was sin in the camp. Although the Lord had forbidden the Jewish people from keeping any of the spoils of the city for themselves, a man named Achan had grabbed a few items and hidden them in his tent. When the Israelites were soundly defeated at *Ai*, Joshua fell on his face before the Lord, pleading to know what had gone wrong. "Israel has sinned therefore they cannot stand before their enemies," came the Lord's reply. It is just as true today as it was then: sin renders the Church powerless against the kingdom of darkness.

The second false concept I would introduce to God's people would be that you get all that God has for you at conversion. If the devil can convince Christians that there is no further work of grace, no need to press on to spiritual maturity, no need for consecration, no empowering for service, then they will forever be seeking to accomplish things in their

own strength.

Without the promised presence of the Holy Spirit, God's people will achieve little-if any-measurable results. Almost without exception every man or woman who ever accomplished anything of significance for God testified to some powerful encounter with the Holy Spirit.

Jude described teachers of these false concepts as, "...the ones who cause divisions, worldly-minded, devoid of the Spirit." (Jude 1: 19) He went on to tell his readers to pray "in the Holy Spirit." The devil will constantly do his utmost to promote false teachers who are "devoid of the Spirit" and to oppose those who understand the power of "praying in the Holy Spirit." He is happy for there to be a great deal of religious activity-so long as none of it is done under the unction of the Holy Ghost.

Yes, if I were the devil I wouldn't change my plans in the slightest. After all, why change what has worked so well for so long?

The antidote to Satan's plan is obvious: we need to pursue holiness with a passion and seek daily to be filled by the Holy Spirit. The devil cannot stand against godly believers who are operating in the power of the Holy Ghost.

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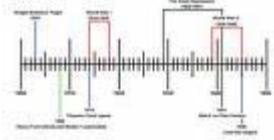
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The history of the sexual revolution and its effects on the Church



This one page piece came from Steve Gallagher's fine publication Unchained! [A publication of Pure Life Ministries]

The history of the sexual revolution and its effects on the Church

* 1948 — Alfred Kinsey publishes "Sexual Behavior in the Human Male." [Editor's note: A special thanks to Dr. Judith Reisman and her significant research exposing Kinsey's fraudulent research]

* 1953 — Hugh Hefner launches Playboy Magazine

* 1964 — Dr. Mary Calderone founds SIECUS to promote sex education in schools

* 1968 — Troy Perry births the Metropolitan Christian Church (MCC) in Los Angeles

* 1969 — Homosexual riot at Stonewall Inn begins gay activism

* 1972 — William Johnson (not this William Johnson), an open homosexual is ordained by the United Church of Christ

* 1972 — Members of the Columbo Mafia family produce "Deep Throat"

* 1973 — American Psychiatric Association drops homosexuality from its list of mental disorders

* 1975 — Adult bookstores, massage parlors, strip clubs and gay bathhouses begin to proliferate across country

* 1982 — Video recorders introduced to public; pornographers begin producing X-rated videos by the thousands

* 1987 — Jim Bakker exposed for affair with church secretary

* 1988 — Jimmy Swaggart exposed for tryst with prostitute

* 1992 — Radio preacher David Hocking resigns pastorate after affair

* 1994 — The Internet is launched; pornographers immediately establish a presence

* 1999 — Henry Lyons, president of the National Baptist Convention, USA,

resigns after affair

* 2000 — Mike Trout, vice-president of Focus on the Family, resigns after affair

* 2003 — Earl Paulk, mega-church pastor, settles out of court case over affair

* 2004 — "Prophet" Paul Cain admits to homosexuality

* 2004 — Over half of U.S. pastors polled admit to having viewed porn at least once during past year

* 2005 — Pornography now grosses \$12 billion in the U.S. and \$57 billion worldwide annually

* 2006 — Ted Haggard, mega-church pastor and president of the NAE, admits to homosexuality

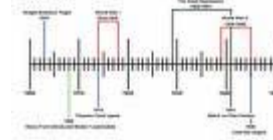
* 2007 — Christian survey reveals 50% of men and 20% of women polled addicted to porn

* 2007 — Same survey shows 40% of Christian women admit to being involved in sexual sin during past year

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