

Introduction

1. Doctrine of Eutychus - guy in Acts who fell out of the window because of Paul's long preaching - I don't know if Mike or Kari told you but I am used to speaking for 2-3 hours
2. Actually today I would like to speak about Reversionism
Probably will not hear anything new but reminder is always helpful
Will give an overview of the doctrine - not detail - 3 hours
3. Before I start - tell a little of my background
 - a. Lutheran church in Ohio
 - b. Stop going - indulging in typical worldliness - drinking, partying
 - c. 24 yrs ago - picked up hitchhiking in La - heard gospel, believed
 - d. Might have been in fellowship for 30 minutes - if saved at all
 - e. Went to Bible school - learned church doctrine with B.D.
 - f. When I moved to Houston - because of the legalism of church I attended charismatic churches - experiential over ritual
Never really felt that was quite right - bible teaching hunger
 - g. 3 1/2 yrs ago came here to CBC - some sacred cows died
 - h. I have seen in other Christians and churches - a lot of legalism, ritual, licentiousness, subjective emotionalism, immaturity, false doctrine, apostasy and reversionism - and I have experienced much of that
4. Perception of status of church today
 - a. Seems like most of church is caught into many traps of the enemy including legalism, tabooism, activities, socializing, emotional experiences - mostly because of false teaching, lack of sound Biblical teaching, negative volition
 - b. Deception seems to be growing - to point that it is putting America (who has been a client nation) under risk of 5th cycle discipline - where we would be taken over militarily - we already have been taken over financially, mentally, spiritually
5. Need today for believers to grow to maturity to super grace status
6. This message is basically a warning message to keep from deception, evil and reversionism and encourage us to press on to the prize of the high calling in Christ Jesus (maturity and super grace)
7. It is very easy to allow deception and evil to penetrate our spiritual life - (I am sure most here realize the importance of positive volition toward God's word) there may be some things that are subtle that can throw us off track toward maturity - if you learn anything today that may prevent you from reversionism then God will have accomplished His purpose for this message
8. It appears by examining the word from a overview that most teaching is focused on either warning against false teaching, carnality, evil or reversionism and an exhortation to renew our mind, to be filled with & influenced by the Spirit, to have divine viewpoint, maturity
9. Most verses that deal with reversionism of the believer many who have been deceived by false doctrine believe it is teaching that one can lose their salvation

I. Definition of reversionism

- A. Webster's - process of returning to a former condition
(this is somewhat descriptive of the word - but you never do return totally to the former condition of being unsaved - destined to hell)
- B. Reversionism - the act of reversing or turning in the opposite way to the point of not being distinguished from pre-salvation status; also referred to as apostasy or being under the influence of evil (mind)
- C. As believers we are designed to execute the personal plan of God which is becoming spiritually mature through the enabling power of the Spirit to perceive Bible doctrine (divine thinking) and to avoid human viewpoint and influence of evil (which is the policy of Satan)
- D. Reversionism is the status of the believer who fails to execute the personal plan of God by being controlled by the old sin nature as he was as an unbeliever thus losing his escrow blessings for time and eternity (characterized by two principles)
 - 1. Negative volition toward Bible doctrine resulting in failure to function under GAP (Grace Apparatus for Perception - filling of HS to enable you to perceive BD from Bible teacher) thus being under the influence of evil
 - 2. Perpetual carnality resulting in life of perpetual discipline (Heb 12:4-15) - lack of spiritual growth
- E. Reversionism is distinguished from carnality (1 Cor 3:1-3) the same way spirituality is distinguished from maturity
 - 1. Carnality is an absolute state of being out of fellowship thru sin under the control of the OSN
Reversionism is a relative state of varying degrees of spiritual failure
 - 2. Spirituality is an absolute state of being in fellowship whereby the HS controls the soul of the believer
Spiritual growth is a relative state of varying degrees of success
 - 3. Carnal believers recover instantly from carnality by confessing sin (1 John 1:9)
Reversionistic believers may take years to recover and sometimes never do - (sin unto death)

II. The 8 stages of Reversionism

A. Reaction & distraction stage

1. Disillusioned with people & situations, discouragement, boredom, inability to cope with loneliness, frustration, overcome by self-pity, (maximum doctrine in the soul - only way to meet these situations)
2. Rejection of authority of your pastor - by having personality hang-up with members or the pastor, hypersensitivity, lack of objectivity under reprimand, illusion that pastor is preaching to you
3. Distractions that lure believer from routine of consistent BD
 - a. Social/sexual - invitation to meet
 - b. Pleasure/entertainment
 - c. Family or friends - drop by
 - d. Health distractions - wine about illness all the time
 - e. Gossip
 - f. Policy distraction - made by pastor
4. Alcohol or drug addiction
5. Mental Illness
 - Neurotics - let everything bother them
 - Psychotics - out of touch with reality - do not know what is real
6. Academic or mental - don't understand something - give up
7. Mental attitude sins - jealousy, bitterness, vindictiveness, implacability, guilt complex, vengeance, (arrogance)

Rom 12:2-3 2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. (maturity, execute plan of God)

3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith. (KJV)

B. Frantic Search for Happiness

1. Show them how happy you can be without BD
2. FSH - becomes an alternative to the daily function of GAP -daily intake and perception of word - God's solution for frustration resulting from reaction phase
3. FSH - follows the trend of the OSN
 - a. Trend toward asceticism - (leads to false emphasis on experience) - spirituality by self-denial(giving up certain foods, music, anything that makes you laugh, smile or have fun), legalism, tabooism, emotional stimulators, holy rollers, works programs, conferences, one shot decisions, social gospel - love everyone and trust everyone (all energy of the flesh) (these types are taken as deeper spiritual believer)
 - b. Trend toward lasciviousness - drunkenness, debauchery, seduction, drug abuse, all kinds of perversions (these types are taken as not being a believer)

C. Operation Boomerang

1. FSH - intensifies the original reaction - frustration becomes worse which leads to more intensified FSH - goes off deep end and cracks up - would not recognize these people any more

D. Emotional revolt of the soul

1. Emotions (female part of soul) designed to respond to the male part (the right lobe - the heart)
2. Emotions are responder to what you have in heart
(frame of reference, memory center, vocabulary and category storage, norms and standards, conscience)
3. Emotional revolt - responding to OSN instead of heart
4. OSN - constantly trying to seduce emotions away from doctrine in the heart (right lobe)
5. Once emotions revolt they become aggressor - lose all capacity for life
6. 2 Cor 6:11-12 11 O ye Corinthians, our mouth is open unto you, our heart is enlarged. (BD)
12 Ye are not straitened in us, but ye are straitened in your own bowels. (KJV) (hindered)
7. Rom 16:17-18 17 Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them.
18 For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple.
(command to separate from reversionistic believers)
8. Soul in revolt neutralizes BD in the soul and dries it up and short circuits GAP - soul malfunctions - those that live by their emotions or use as criteria - are apostate, degenerate, disoriented, under influenced by evil, are under discipline
9. Does not mean that there is anything wrong with emotion - it is the way we express our capacity for life - way we respond to things we enjoy and appreciate
10. Evil - when emotions respond to OSN instead of doctrine in heart
Not to be a dictator

E. Negative volition toward doctrine

1. Reaction and distraction phase, FSH, boomerang, emotional revolt all contribute to negative volition toward BD
2. Characteristics : Indifference or apathy toward BD or right P/T
3. Too busy - any excuse will do
4. Antagonism or personality hang-ups with pastor or his authority
5. Antagonism or personality hang-ups with other members - excuse even some divorced couples still come to same church
6. Failure to utilize grace provision for GAP - confession of sin, assembly of church, lack of respect for authority, poor manners, lack of concentration, lack of objectivity, etc
7. Inability to handle prosperity (prosperity can be a blessing from God - but also can be a warning for discipline)
You can only enjoy blessings from God if you have capacity for life, love, happiness and blessings - by having BD in soul
8. Failure to appreciate the factors of living grace
(food, clothing, shelter, transportation, job, right pastor, Bible, local church, - so you can learn BD)

F. Black out of the soul

1. Starts in the left lobe - nous - mind
2. Negative volition produces a vacuum in the soul through which comes the doctrines of demons -
 - 1 Tim 4:1-4 1 Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;
 - 2 Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;Believer cannot be possessed with demons (because indwelt by God) but soul can be possessed with evil - the demons communicate evil
3. Black out - strict human viewpoint, Satanic viewpoint, liberalism, anti-establishment, anti-authority, anti-military/war
4. Eph 4:17-18 17 This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, (vacuum)
18 Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart: (KJV)

G. Scar tissue of the soul

1. Freezing of the valves (circulate thinking) of right lobe (heart)
2. Norms & standards (conscience) and vocabulary & category storage
3. Atrophies into hardness - of heart
 - Prov 21:29 A wicked man hardeneth his face: but as for the upright, he directeth his way. (KJV)
 - Neh 9:16 16 But they and our fathers dealt proudly, and hardened their necks, and hearkened not to thy commandments,
 - Jer 7:25-26 25 Since the day that your fathers came forth out of the land of Egypt unto this day I have even sent unto you all my servants the prophets, daily rising up early and sending them:
26 Yet they hearkened not unto me, nor inclined their ear, but hardened their neck: they did worse than their fathers.
4. Conclude - that evil is what destroys believers not sin
sin was taken care of on cross - what we think

H. Reverse Process Reversionism (final stage)

1. Cannot be distinguished from unbelievers - pattern of life, thinking, viewpoint)
2. Reverse objects of love

Personal glory	instead of	occupation with Christ
False teachers	instead of	right pastor
False Lovers	instead of	right man or woman
False friends	instead of	true friends

III. Discipline for reversionism

- A. Warning discipline - against spiritual condition of 1st 4 stages
Rev 3:20 Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. (KJV)
 - 1. Adversity and prosperity - prosperity and then removed
- B. Intensive discipline - if ignore warning
 - 1. prosperity of all types are removed - or capacity is void and cannot enjoy them
 - 2. 2 Thes 2:11 And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: (KJV)
- C. Dying discipline - sin unto death (1 John 5:16)
Phil 3:18-19 18 (For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ:
19 Whose end is destruction, whose God is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame, who mind earthly things.) (KJV)

IV. Categories of Reversionism (manifestations)

- A. Antinomian Reversionism - anti law
2 Cor 12:21 And lest, when I come again, my God will humble me among you, and that I shall bewail many which have sinned already, and have not repented of the uncleanness and fornication and lasciviousness which they have committed. (KJV)
Eph 4:19 Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness. (KJV)
- B. Legalistic Reversionism
Col 2:16-18 16 Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days:
17 Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ.
18 Let no man beguile you of your reward in a voluntary humility and worshipping of angels, intruding into those things which he hath not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind, (KJV)
- C. Monetary Reversionism
James 4:13-14 13 Go to now, ye that say, To day or to morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain:
14 Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away. (KJV)
- D. Alcoholic or drug addiction Reversionism
Is 28:1 Woe to the crown of pride, to the drunkards of Ephraim, whose glorious beauty is a fading flower, which are on the head of the fat valleys of them that are overcome with wine! (KJV)
Gal 5:20 Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, (KJV)

E. Anti-establishment Reversionism

Against free enterprise, freedom from military victory, family, home, true function of government (Rom 1:18-32)

F. Mental attitude arrogance Reversionism

1 Tim 6:4 He is proud, knowing nothing, but doting about questions and strifes of words, whereof cometh envy, strife, railings, evil surmisings, (KJV)

G. Verbal Reversionism

James 5:9 Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: behold, the judge standeth before the door.

James 5:12 But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath: but let your yea be yea; and your nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation. (KJV)

H. Psychotic Reversionism - begins by being totally self-centered

2 Pet 2:15-19 15 Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness;

16 But was rebuked for his iniquity: the dumb ass speaking with man's voice forbad the madness of the prophet.

17 These are wells without water, clouds that are carried with a tempest; to whom the mist of darkness is reserved for ever.

18 For when they speak great swelling words of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through much wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error.

19 While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage.

V. Biblical terminology for reversionism

- A. Gal 5:4 Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace. (KJV)
- B. Phil 3:18 (For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: (KJV)
- C. Jer 9:25-26 25 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will punish all them which are circumcised with the uncircumcised;
26 Egypt, and Judah, and Edom, and the children of Ammon, and Moab, and all that are in the utmost corners, that dwell in the wilderness: for all these nations are uncircumcised, and all the house of Israel are uncircumcised in the heart. (KJV)
- D. Heb 12:15 Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled; (KJV)
- E. 2 Pet 2:7-8 7 And delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked:
8 (For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds;) (KJV)
- F. 2 Pet 2:14 Having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; beguiling unstable souls: an heart they have exercised with covetous practices; cursed children:
- G. Rev 2:5 Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent. (KJV)
- H. Rev 2:4 Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love. (KJV)
- I. Rev 3:15-16 15 I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot.
16 So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. (KJV)
- J. 1 Tim 1:19 Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck: (KJV)
- K. Jn 15:23 He that hateth me hateth my Father also. (KJV)
- L. 1 Pet 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: (KJV) (the devoured)
- M. 2 Tim 2:26 And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will. (enter devil's trap)

VI. Profile of the reversionist

- Ps 7:14-16 14 Behold, he travaileth with iniquity, and hath conceived mischief, and brought forth falsehood.
15 He made a pit, and digged it, and is fallen into the ditch which he made.
16 His mischief shall return upon his own head, and his violent dealing shall come down upon his own pate. (KJV)
- A. Labor pain of vanity (he) warning discipline
- B. Pregnant with frustrations - 1st 4 stages of reversionism
- C. Life of deceit - last 4 stages of reversionism
- D. Dig grave - then falls in
- E. 16 - Take responsibility for negative volition to doctrine

VII. Hebrew - reversionism

Heb 5:11-14 11 Of whom we have many things to say, and hard to be uttered, seeing ye are dull of hearing.
12 For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat.
13 For every one that useth milk is unskillful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe.
14 But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil. (KJV)
(discern difference between honorable and evil)

Heb 6:1-3 1 Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God,
2 Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.
3 And this will we do, if God permit. (KJV)
(recovery is impossible apart from daily intake of doctrine)

Heb 6:4-6 4 For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost,
5 And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come,
6 If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame. (KJV)
(recovery is impossible when religious reversionism is perpetually in life)

VIII. Reversionism leads to perversion and national degeneracy

- A. Rom 1:26-27 26 For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature:
27 And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompense of their error which was meet. (KJV)
- B. Rom 1:29-32 29 Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers,
30 Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents,
31 Without understanding, covenant breakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful:
32 Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.
(KJV)
- C. Hosea 4:1-6 1 Hear the word of the LORD, ye children of Israel: for the LORD hath a controversy with the inhabitants of the land, because there is no truth, nor mercy, nor knowledge of God in the land.
2 By swearing, and lying, and killing, and stealing, and committing adultery, they break out, and blood toucheth blood.
3 Therefore shall the land mourn, and every one that dwelleth therein shall languish, with the beasts of the field, and with the fowls of heaven; yea, the fishes of the sea also shall be taken away.
4 Yet let no man strive, nor reprove another: for thy people are as they that strive with the priest.
5 Therefore shalt thou fall in the day, and the prophet also shall fall with thee in the night, and I will destroy thy mother.
6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children. (KJV)

Conclusion:

- Heb 12:5-7 5 And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him:
6 For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.
7 If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?
(KJV)
- Heb 12:11 Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby. (KJV)