

Who or What is Leading You?

Pastor Eddie Turner
Sunday, February 24, 2019

Rom. 8:14(NIV)~ For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.

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- Who or what is leading you?
- Who or what is leading me?
- Who or what am I following?
- Who or what has the most influence in my life?

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Whether we realize it or not, we are all following someone or something. We may deceive ourselves thinking we are independent and doing it our way-but we are all followers.

Being a follower is not a bad thing, unless we are following the wrong person or wrong thing.

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1). Some people follow money

Matt.6:24(NKJV)~ <sup>24</sup> “No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.

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The spirit of mammon creates a craving in you that is never satisfied or content.

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- People who are being led by the spirit of mammon, must have the most expensive and the latest designer.

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- People who are being led by the spirit of mammon, never have enough.

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- People who are led by the spirit of mammon are unable to pursue God fully.

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Matt.6:24(NKJV)~ ²⁴ “No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.

Matt. 6:31~33(NKJV)~ ³¹ “Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’
³² For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

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- Riches demand allegiance
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Luke 4:1-8(NKJV)~ Then Jesus, being filled with the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, ² being tempted for forty days by the devil. And in those days, He ate nothing, and afterward, when they had ended, He was hungry.

³ And the devil said to Him, “If You are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread.”

⁴ But Jesus answered him, saying, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.’”

⁵ Then the devil, taking Him up on a high mountain, showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. ⁶ And the devil said to Him, “All this authority I will give You, and their glory; for this has been delivered to me, and I give it to whomever I wish.

⁷ Therefore, if You will worship before me, all will be Yours.”

⁸ And Jesus answered and said to him, “Get behind Me, Satan! For it is written, ‘You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve.’”

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Luke 18:18-30(NKJV)~ <sup>Now</sup> a certain ruler asked Him, saying, “Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?”

<sup>19</sup> So Jesus said to him, “Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. <sup>20</sup> You know the commandments: ‘Do not commit adultery,’ ‘Do not murder,’ ‘Do not steal,’ ‘Do not bear false witness,’ ‘Honor your father and your mother.’”

<sup>21</sup> And he said, “All these things I have kept from my youth.”

<sup>22</sup> So when Jesus heard these things, He said to him, “You still lack one thing. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.”

<sup>23</sup> But when he heard this, he became very sorrowful, for he was very rich.

<sup>24</sup> And when Jesus saw that he became very sorrowful, He said, “How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!

<sup>25</sup> For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.”

<sup>26</sup> And those who heard it said, “Who then can be saved?” <sup>27</sup> But He said, “The things which are impossible with men are possible with God.”

<sup>28</sup> Then Peter said, “See, we have left all and followed You.”

<sup>29</sup> So He said to them, “Assuredly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or parents or brothers or wife or children, for the sake of the kingdom of God, <sup>30</sup> who shall not receive many times more in this present time, and in the age to come eternal life.”

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1). The opportunity to be with Jesus (follow me)

2). Riches for an eternity (treasure in heaven)

3). More in this present life

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• Being led by mammon (riches) will eventually lead you to poverty.

1 Tim.6:9-11 (Passion)- But those who crave the wealth of this world slip into spiritual snares. They become trapped by the troubles that come through their foolish and harmful desires, driven by greed and drowning in their own sinful pleasures. And they take others down with them into their corruption and eventual destruction.

<sup>10</sup> Loving money is the first step toward all kinds of trouble. Some people run after it so much that they have given up their faith.

Craving more money pushes them away from the faith into error, compounding misery in their lives!

<sup>11</sup> Timothy, you are God's man, so run from all these errors. Instead, chase after true holiness, justice, faithfulness, love, hope, and tender humility.

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1). Some people follow money

2). Some people follow the approval of man

1 Samuel 15:1-3 (NKJV)~ Samuel also said to Saul, "The Lord sent me to anoint you king over His people, over Israel. Now therefore, heed the voice of the words of the Lord. ² Thus says the Lord of hosts: 'I will punish Amalek for what he did to Israel, how he ambushed him on the way when he came up from Egypt. ³ Now go and attack Amalek, and destroy all that they have, and do not spare them. But kill both man and woman, infant and nursing child, ox and sheep, camel and donkey.'

• Why did God order the genocide of the Amalekites?

1 Sam. 15:4-21 (NKJV)~ So Saul gathered the people together and numbered them in Telaim, two hundred thousand-foot soldiers and ten thousand men of Judah. ⁵ And Saul came to a city of Amalek and lay in wait in the valley.

⁶ Then Saul said to the Kenites, "Go, depart, get down from among

the Amalekites, lest I destroy you with them. For you showed kindness to all the children of Israel when they came up out of Egypt.” So, the Kenites departed from among the Amalekites. ⁷ And Saul attacked the Amalekites, from Havilah all the way to Shur, which is east of Egypt. ⁸ He also took Agag king of the Amalekites alive, and destroyed all the people with the edge of the sword. ⁹ But Saul and the people spared Agag and the best of the sheep, the oxen, the fatlings, the lambs, and all that was good, and were unwilling to destroy them. But everything despised and worthless, that they destroyed.

¹⁰ Now the word of the Lord came to Samuel, saying, ¹¹ “I greatly regret that I have set up Saul as king, for he has turned back from following Me, and has not performed My commandments.” And it grieved Samuel, and he cried out to the Lord all night. ¹² So when Samuel rose early in the morning to meet Saul, it was told Samuel, saying, “Saul went to Carmel, and indeed, he set up a monument for himself; and he has gone on around, passed by, and gone down to Gilgal.” ¹³ Then Samuel went to Saul, and Saul said to him, “Blessed are you of the Lord! I have performed the commandment of the Lord.”

¹⁴ But Samuel said, “What then is this bleating of the sheep in my ears, and the lowing of the oxen which I hear?”

¹⁵ And Saul said, “They have brought them from the Amalekites; for the people spared the best of the sheep and the oxen, to sacrifice to the Lord your God; and the rest we have utterly destroyed.”

¹⁶ Then Samuel said to Saul, “Be quiet! And I will tell you what the Lord said to me last night.” And he said to him, “Speak on.”

¹⁷ So Samuel said, “When you were little in your own eyes, were you not head of the tribes of Israel? And did not the Lord anoint you king over Israel? ¹⁸ Now the Lord sent you on a mission, and said, ‘Go, and utterly destroy the sinners, the Amalekites, and fight against them until they are consumed.’ ¹⁹ Why then did you not obey the voice of the Lord? Why did you swoop down on the spoil, and do evil in the sight of the Lord?”

²⁰ And Saul said to Samuel, “But I have obeyed the voice of the LORD and gone on the mission on which the Lord sent me and brought back Agag king of Amalek; I have utterly destroyed the Amalekites.

²¹ But the people took of the plunder, sheep and oxen, the best of the things which should have been utterly destroyed, to sacrifice to the Lord your God in Gilgal.”

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1 Sam. 15:22-30(NKJV) - <sup>22</sup> So Samuel said:

“Has the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices,  
As in obeying the voice of the Lord?

Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice,  
And to heed than the fat of rams.

<sup>23</sup> For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft,  
And stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry.

Because you have rejected the word of the Lord,  
He also has rejected you from being king.”

<sup>24</sup> Then Saul said to Samuel, “I have sinned, for I have transgressed  
the commandment of the Lord and your words, because I feared the  
people and obeyed their voice. <sup>25</sup> Now therefore, please pardon my  
sin, and return with me, that I may worship the Lord.”

<sup>26</sup> But Samuel said to Saul, “I will not return with you, for you have  
rejected the word of the Lord, and the Lord has rejected you from  
being king over Israel.”

<sup>27</sup> And as Samuel turned around to go away, Saul seized the edge of  
his robe, and it tore. <sup>28</sup> So Samuel said to him, “The Lord has torn the  
kingdom of Israel from you today, and has given it to a neighbor of  
yours, who is better than you. <sup>29</sup> And also the Strength of Israel will  
not lie nor relent. For He is not a man, that He should relent.”

<sup>30</sup> Then he said, “I have sinned; yet honor me now, please, before the  
elders of my people and before Israel, and return with me, that I may  
worship the Lord your God.”

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King Saul followed the approval of man instead of the word of the
Lord and it cost him the anointing and his authority.

John 12:42-43(NKJV) - Nevertheless even among the rulers many

believed in Him, but because of the Pharisees they did not confess Him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue; ⁴³ for they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.

- 1). Some people follow money
- 2). Some people follow the approval of man
- 3). Some people follow friends whose relationship with Christ is not healthy or non-existent

Psalm 1:1 (NLT)~ Oh, the joys of those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or stand around with sinners, or join in with mockers.

Prov. 1:10(NLT)~ My child, if sinners entice you, turn your back on them! (v:15)~ My child, don't go along with them! Stay far away from their paths.

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- 1). Some people follow money
 - 2). Some people follow the approval of man
 - 3). Some people follow friends whose relationship with Christ is not healthy or non-existent
 - 4). God desires to lead His children
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Rom. 8:14 (NIV) ~ For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.