

## Avoiding or Overcoming Disaffection With God

2 Corinthians 11:2 For I am jealous for you with the jealousy of God himself. I promised you as a pure bride to one husband—Christ. 3 But I **fear** that somehow your **pure and undivided devotion to Christ** will be **corrupted/destroyed/ruined**, just as Eve was deceived by the cunning ways of the serpent.

### The Start of Disaffection

- **STRESS**
- **EVIL**
- **FALSE EXPECTATIONS**
- **SELFISHNESS**
- **SPEED**
- **SCRIPTS FROM THE PAST**

### The Path of Disaffection with God

#### **Ambush**

##### **\* Some are from Satan**

1 Peter 5:8 Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour.

##### **\* Some are from our broken world**

James 1: Dear brothers and sisters, **when** troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. 3 For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow.

John 16:33 .... Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows.

##### **\* And there's \_\_\_\_\_ coming one day:**

Matthew 24:21 For there **will be** greater anguish than at any time since the world began. And it will never be so great again.

#### **Ambush often results in one or more:**

**Anxiety:** Fear plus Anxiety equals Doubt

**Doubt leads to disappointment and discouragement**

**Disappointment and discouragement lead to :**

**Anger**

**Aloneness**

**Alienation / Insulation**

**Alienation/Insulation leads to arrogance**

All of these lead to **DISAFFECTION** and Disaffection leads to: **Adulteries** of the Heart

James 1:6 ....Do not waver, for a person with divided loyalty is as unsettled as a wave of the sea that is blown and tossed by the wind. 7 Such people should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. 8 Their loyalty is divided between God and the world, and they are unstable in everything they do.

### **Recovery of the Disaffected Heart**

1) Begins With Receiving by Faith The Love, Attention, and Provision of God **BY FAITH**

2) Assess Ourselves

Psalm 139:23 Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts.  
24 Point out anything in me that offends you, and lead me along the path of everlasting life.

2 Corinthians 7:11 Just see what this godly sorrow produced in you! Such earnestness, such concern to clear yourselves, such indignation, such alarm, such longing to see me, such zeal, and such a readiness to punish wrong. You showed that you have done everything necessary to make things right.

3) Become \_\_\_\_\_ of our Condition

4) Take ACTION: Repair our \_\_\_\_\_ with God and His People

a) Change the way you think about God:

Psalm 3:5 I lay down and slept, yet I woke up in safety, for the Lord **was watching over me.**

Deuteronomy 31:6 So be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid and do not panic before them. For the Lord your God will personally go ahead of you. **He will neither fail you nor abandon you."**

b) *Pursue* Intimacy with God

Revelation 2:5....Turn back to me and do the works you did at first.

c) Be reconciled to God

John 15: 4 Remain in me, and I will remain in you. For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful unless you remain in me. 5 "Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For *apart* from me **you can do nothing.**

### **Hebrews 10:**

<sup>32</sup> Think back on those early days when you first learned about Christ. Remember how you remained faithful even though it meant terrible suffering. <sup>33</sup> Sometimes you were exposed to public ridicule and were beaten, and sometimes you helped others who were suffering the same things. <sup>34</sup> You suffered along with those who were thrown into jail, and even when all you owned was taken from you, you accepted it with joy. **You knew there were better things waiting for you that will last forever.**

<sup>35</sup> So do not throw away this confident trust in the Lord. Remember the great reward it brings you!

<sup>36</sup> Patient endurance is what you need now, so that you will continue to do God's will. Then you will receive all that he has promised.

<sup>37</sup> “For in just a little while, the Coming One will come and not delay. <sup>38</sup> And my righteous ones will live by faith. But I will take no pleasure in anyone who turns away.”<sup>39</sup> But we are not like those who turn away from God to their own destruction. We are the faithful ones, whose souls will be saved.

d) Draw Close to God Through:

**1) Action / Spiritual Disciplines**

Philippians 4:9 Keep putting into practice all you learned and received from me—everything you heard from me and saw me doing. Then the God of peace will be with you.

**2) Accessibility and Accountability**

James 5:16 Confess your sins/faults to each other **and** pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results.

Hebrews 10:25 And let us not **neglect** our **meeting together**, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.

Hebrews 3:13 You must warn each other every day, while it is still “today,” so that none of you will be deceived by sin and hardened against God.

**Regular fellowship with believers is an essential ingredient in Christian growth.**

“When ye frequently, and in numbers meet together, the powers of Satan are overthrown, and his mischief is neutralized by your likemindedness in the faith.” St. Ignatius

**Alive To God Again**

1 Thessalonians 5: 13.....live peacefully with each other. 14 Brothers and sisters, we urge you to warn those who are lazy. Encourage those who are timid. Take tender care of those who are weak. Be patient with everyone. 15 See that no one pays back evil for evil, but always try to do good to each other and to all people. 16 Always be joyful. 17 Never stop praying. 18 Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you who belong to Christ Jesus. 19 Do not stifle the Holy Spirit. 20 Do not scoff at prophecies, 21 but test everything that is said. Hold on to what is good. 22 Stay away from every kind of evil.