

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE CULTS

JUDE 3

I. THE DEFINITION OF A CULT

- A. A cult is a religious group which differs from that which has been traditionally accepted as a Biblical basis for belief and practice.. In other words cultists either depart from what others have held as the cardinal doctrines and truths of the Word of God or they adopt a system of practices which runs contrary to what the majority have believed to be biblical.

II. THE DEVICES OF THE CULTIST

- A. The cultist in order to fit and frame his system of belief together must first of all redefine Christian terminology so that what he means by a certain term is in no way what we accept it to mean. For example when the Jehovah Witness is speaking about hell he is actually meaning the grave and not eternal punishment.
- B. The second device that cultists use is that of taking Scriptures out of their context and applying them to things they have no reference to.
- C. Another device is that of extra-biblical revelation which many have mysteriously received and has become a part of the basis for their belief.
- D. Still another device that the cults use is that of deception, in spreading their pernicious doctrines. They often hide their identity behind some kind of cloak.

III. THE DISPOSITION OF A CULTIST

- A. The cultist is usually well trained in his own definition of Christian terminology, and is both argumentative as well as antagonistic.
- B. The cultist is most always closed minded about his beliefs and hears very little contrary to what he has been taught.
- C. The cultist will very carefully avoid his definition of terms unless he is pinned down for an explanation.
- D. The cultist is usually highly motivated over his beliefs because works is the basis upon which he will either be saved, blessed, or promoted in his system.

IV. THE DEFENSE AGAINST THE CULTS

- A. The biggest defense that a Christian has against any cult is a thorough understanding of Biblical doctrine and truths which only can come through a faithful and dedicated life of service (II Pt. 3:18; Col. 3:6,7; Eph. 4:14).
- B. The next biggest defence is that of having nothing to do with those who would come to you denying the doctrines of Christ (II Jhn 10,11).
- C. Finally an understanding of some of what the cults believe will no doubt help to deter us from being drawn into their erroneous teachings and the devil's snare in which they are held.