

The Doctrine of The Nikolites

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Gilyahna/Revelation 2: 6, 15-When our YHWH-Yahshua walked among men, He taught His disciples to beware of the leaven of the Prushium/Pharisees, whom He denounced as hypocrites. With them He lumped the chief priests and officials of the Temple, together with the recognized teachers (scribes, and professors), in the synagogues. He declared they had so corrupted the truth of Elohim, which they were supposed to preach, with the doctrines and ordinances of men, that the truth, as originally given, was no longer with them. That which these blind leaders of the blind were giving forth as the truth of Elohim, was making their converts twofold more the children of hell than they were before accepting the corruption by these corrupt teachers.

Do Not Become Exalted

Kefa Alef/First Peter 5:1-3-Therefore, as a warning to those who were joining themselves to Him, Yahshua said that these non-spiritual men made long prayers for a "pretense," a public "show" which, while having a form of humility, was for the purpose of only being seen by men. What these men really loved were the highest seats in the synagogues; the uppermost rooms at the public feasts; the greetings they received in the market places from truly humble and sincere men, **whom they hoped would esteem them as superiors.**

Hypocrites

Also, added to the carnal desire to be "uppermost" in the eyes of YHWH's people, these leaders were charged with extortion and accused of devouring the homes of widows, and of excess. Yahshua accused them of being hypocrites who aspired to be regarded as dignitaries of the congregations of the Most High Elohim. Such conditions as described exist in many assemblies across whose portals, the Elohim of Holiness, has been written the name, "Ichavod" -- the glory of YHWH has departed.

The word "excess," as used above, **means the carnal abuse of lawful things; things lawful and right carried to extremes.** For it is true that there is a legal and Elohim approved honor given to certain selected leaders:

"We beseech you, brethren, to know them which labor among you, and are over you in YHWH, and admonish you; and to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be in shalom among yourselves," (Tesloniqyah Alef/I Thessalonians 5: 12-13).

"Let the elders that rule well (guide, lead; preside well) be counted worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in the word and doctrine," (Timtheous Alef/I Timothy 5: 17).

Guide Not Rule

Why should leaders guide and lead, instead of rule? Because those who are over us in the YHWH are shepherds who must lead and guide, but not dominate. Man's will displayed in rulership is human government, and the kehilla must be "subject to Moshiach" only. "One is your Master, even Moshiach."

The following Divine instruction is from one of the inspired and Ruach-filled elders:

"The elders which are among you exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Moshiach, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed. Feed the flock of Elohim which is among you, taking the oversight (not rulership) but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; **neither as being lords over Elohim's heritage, but being examples to the flock,**" (Kefa Alef/1 Peter 5:1-3).

The "blind guide" would say, but not so. The divinely anointed elder will both say and do, and thus be an example to the flock so that the people will love and esteem very highly for his work sake, and who in his heart will never desire be lord over the heritage of his Master. **It is this aspiration in men's hearts to become lords over Elohim's heritage that Elohim hates.** "The doctrine of the Nikolites" is just what the word Nicolaitanes itself declares:

Proof

In the book of the Gilyahna/Revelation of Yahshua Ha Moshiach, **it is both "the deeds" and "the doctrine"** of those in the two specified "assemblies" Revelation 2:6, 15) that YHWH despises. YHWH demands teshuvah on the part of those who hold, and practice these things, and He threatens drastic punishment if they do not obey Him:

"Repent; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth," (Gilyahna/Revelation 2:16).

The Greek word used in its construction is first Nikos of which we use the English equivalents instead of the Greek letters, as we shall also of the other two. (The Aramaic Peshitta does not include the Scroll of Revelation). **Nikos is defined as conquest, victory, triumph, conquered and by implication dominance over the defeated.** Another such transferred name in which the term is used is Nico-polis, i.e. Niko conquest; polis city. Hence, the city of conquest or city of victory.

The second term used in the name under consideration is "laos," or people, another use of which is Nicolas, which is transferred and is composed of Nikoslaos and, means one who is "victorious over the people.

Laodiceans

Also, a still further transferred use of "laos" is found in the name Lao (s) diceans, compounded with dike or dice as the Greek "k" is the equivalent English "c." Thus, in the name Laodiceans, we have "laos" people and dice judgment, or vengeance, i.e., the people under my judgment, or under my vengeance. Also the Greek word *laos* means "laymen," of which *laos* is the root and stem, which selfsame word, with the "O" Short contracted to "i", to which root and stem the plural definite article ton is joined to form *laiton* -- is a Greek phrase meaning "the laity."

The third and last word entering into the construction of the proper name Nicolaitanes is *fon*, in which *omega*, the long "o", is contracted into long "a", thus making the word "tan" which is the genitive case plural in all the genders of the definite article "the." Therefore we have without the legal Greek construction the English hyphenated word *Nickos-laoston*, but which, with its lawful elisions and contractions, becomes the English name: ***Nicolaitanes*, the full meaning of which, in its native tongue and in its ecclesiastical setting, is that the bishops and leaders of the assembly have gained a triumphal victory, or conquest over the *laiton* -- the people -- until they have been compelled to submit to the arbitrary dominion of men, who have become that thing which YHWH hates....masters over YHWH's heritage and flock.**

Hierarchy Has Ranks

The evidence of this is found in all our common dictionaries, among which we find the following definition of the term "hierarchy"-the power of dominion, and government by ecclesiastical rulers," to which the following is introduced in evidence: "If anyone shall say that there is not in the Catholic Church a hierarchy established by the divine ordination, consisting of bishops, presbyters and ministers, let him be anathema, Council of Trent XXIII 6." (Century Dictionary.)

In other words, let anyone who will have the chutzpah to say there is not a hierarchy, or a collection of human beings, who have been given the power, by other men of dominion, as ecclesiastical rulers over others who are declared to be Elohim's heritage, let that man be accursed. Or in other words, let death and hell and the devil get him. Furthermore Webster's defines the word Episcopal as:

"The power of government belonging to or invested in bishops, or prelates, gov'ts of the church by the bishops. Also in episcopacy, the order of bishops is superior to the other clergy, and has exclusive power to confer orders."

In this definition it is affirmed that a certain portion of presbyters (elders) were even "in apostolic times superior to the ordinary presbyters," and also mentions the fact that episcopacy recognizes "episcopal rank" which is created by the institution being governed. All of which affirms that episcopal type government practices the very carnal and fleshly iniquity of creating "superiors" in what should be a kadosh Yisraelite brotherhood. The use of this appellation makes "inferiors" out of "brethren" who are even in the selfsame clergy, not to mention the body of His choosing.

Rank Creates Divisions

This is why in my current stage of ministry, I no longer give out titles and I no longer surround myself with others who have titles, thus preventing any temptation to practice the deeds and the doctrines of the Nikolites. I do have, possess and use firm apostolic authority, but do not do so by ranking

people around me with titles, that would seem to indicate my superiority, or their superiority to those without titles, or with lesser titles. It took me, many years to learn this, but it has been a lesson well pleasing to the Master who oversees all our steps. I have found some leaders who have no followers and are merely taking a walk, and other leaders who have nothing to say worthy of the Master's call to be instant in all seasons. I have seen other leaders who have title, but rob the sheep by borrowing money from them with no means or intentions to repay. I am tired of the Nikolite systems that support that kind of dysfunctionality and have determined to forsake that route of defiled service to YHWH.

The approbation of "ordinary elders" demands a "set" of elders who are super ordinary, thus creating "rank" (*caste*) in the otherwise Yisraelite brotherhood, all of which destroys kadosh fellowship, creates division and strife and fosters envy. No marvel that YHWH should hate a thing like that, condemn it, and demand that those who are guilty shall make teshuvah/repent.

But will they? Yes, some will when the tribulation is here. Others, however, will stick their ecclesiastical crowd, vainly imagining that their-boasted superiority will see them through the time of the greatest trouble the world has ever known, or will know. They must go down and be humbled with the rest of the hosts of anti-Moshiach's.

And yet, one of the most unfortunate features of all this is that there are those in the kehilla who do not verbally hold the doctrine of the Nikolites, claiming to be Yisrael, but who nonetheless practice their deeds of dominating others in the kehilla, through rank and boards of ranking officers. So that it is not the called out apostolic minister working alone in YHWH's grace who is rebuked by YHWH, but those who do the deeds of the Nikolites plugged into a chain of command, all the while calling the doctrine and

practice of such an abomination to YHWH! The kehilla is ultimately subject only to one Divine Master, and all that we as leaders can do is serve and guide those desiring guidance. Of course not all desire to be guided.

Close-The deeds of the Nikolites are seen in Yochanan-Moshe/Mark 10:35-35-37, as the talmidim sought out position and seating arrangements over the others. Rank and pulling rank is a sign of gentile/goyish behavior and not Yisraelite brotherhood. See Yochanan Moshe/Mark 9: 32-37. What's the solution to the deeds and teachings of the Nikolites? Equality of the brethren by giving service, as taught us by Yahshua in Mattiyahu/Matthew 12:46-50.