

HOW DISLOYALTY RESULTS IN DOCTRINAL IMBALANCE

STEPS TO IMBALANCE BY A DISLOYAL PERSON	RELATED INSIGHTS
1. HE HAS AN INDEPENDENT SPIRIT	An independent spirit is the result of an unbroken will and the lack of a servant's heart. It is either caused or amplified by a preoccupation on personal matters, often moral impurity.
2. HE DESIRES PERSONAL RECOGNITION FROM HIS SPIRITUAL LEADERS	When a man's spirit is not able to be open toward God's approval he counts all the more on receiving man's recognition. (See Colossians 3:22-23.) Every person is "performing" for an audience—those from whom he desires praise.
3. HE EXALTS THE IMPORTANCE OF HIS IDEAS TO HIS SPIRITUAL LEADERS	Often his ideas fail to take into account the whole picture which experience or responsibility has given to his leaders. Thus, they set aside or reject his ideas.
4. HE IS HURT WHEN HIS IDEAS ARE REJECTED BY HIS SPIRITUAL LEADERS	Since human approval is of utmost importance, the rejection of his ideas is the same as rejecting him. Pride is wounded.
5. HE DEVELOPS A CRITICAL SPIRIT TOWARD HIS SPIRITUAL LEADERS	Now that his leaders have rejected his ideas and pride is at stake, he uses his own ideas as a standard of judgment.
6. HE DISTORTS THE VIEW OF HIS SPIRITUAL LEADERS	He discovers that by distortion and sounding the alarm over the dangers of the ideas of his leaders, he is able to recapture recognition among his friends for the importance of his ideas.
7. HE GIVES RECOGNITION TO OTHERS WHO ARE DISSATISFIED (PROV. 28:4)	By meeting the needs of others who are also looking for human recognition, he builds a following which establishes a threat to his spiritual leaders.

STEPS TO IMBALANCE BY A DISLOYAL PERSON (Continued)

RELATED INSIGHTS (Continued)

8. HE JUSTIFIES HIS OPPOSITION TO HIS SPIRITUAL LEADERS

He focuses on specific faults or deficiencies in their lives or leadership with which no one would be able to disagree. This approach gives credence to his further ideas. Note: his reaction now serves as a reproof to his spiritual leaders which, if responded to, will decrease the danger of doctrinal imbalance.

9. HE IS ENCOURAGED BY GENUINE SUPPORT OF HIS SPECIFIC POINTS

The pride of his spiritual leaders and their concern for the major points of truth may prompt them to totally reject the disloyal follower, thus causing people to choose sides.

10. HE IS FORCED TO EMPHASIZE THE MINOR POINTS WHICH ALL AGREE ARE TRUE

As minor points are emphasized, major and established points are often neglected. The neglect of major points shows up in the next generation of the splinter group.

11. HE EXALTS THE MINOR POINTS BY MAKING THEM ESSENTIAL FOR EITHER SALVATION OR FOR FAVOR WITH GOD

This exaltation of minor points is an attempt to maintain the distinctiveness of the group and to retain the loyalty of its followers. The definition of heresy in the expository dictionary is: "Self-willed opinion which is substituted for submission to the power of truth." (See I Corinthians 11:19.)

12. THE DEFICIENCIES IN THIS SPLINTER GROUP PROMPT OTHER SPLINTER GROUPS IN YEARS TO COME

Splinter groups result not only from the major points which are neglected in the second generation but especially by the spirit of independence which was never pinpointed and resolved.

This is NOT "One Man in Zion," but a travesty to the unity God commands in Christ's Body (1 Cor. 1:13; Phi. 2:2; Rom. 15:16; Jn. 17:21) and a violation of HIS covenant--the New Covenant in Christ's blood and body (Mal 2:10, 16b; Ezek. 17:18-19 [Gal 3:5]; Ez. 17:9-10, 15b; 1 Co. 11:27-29; Phi. 3:18; 1 Jn. 5:7-8 [Heb. 10:29]), and will be judged as such.