

Revelation Series

Lesson #045

May 15, 2005

Dean Bible Ministries

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An aerial photograph of a mountainous landscape, likely in the Andes, showing a deep river valley and rugged terrain. The text is overlaid on the upper portion of the image.

Inheriting the Kingdom Revelation 2:8

Revelation 2:11, “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who overcomes shall not be hurt by the second death.”

Rev. 20:14, “Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.”

Rev. 20:6, “Blessed and holy is he who has part [*meros*: inheritance, share] in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.”

Rev. 21:8, “But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part [*meros*: inheritance, share] in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.”

Rev. 21:7, “He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son.

Rev. 21:8, “But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.”

Romans 8:17, “and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.”

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Woman without her man is nothing

Woman, without her, man is nothing

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Romans 8:17, “and if children, then heirs of God, and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.”

1 Corinthians 6:9, “Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites,

1 Corinthians 6:10, “nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.”

1. The concept of inheriting the kingdom is understood in two radically different ways, to “enter the kingdom,” and “to have a share in the privileges and possessions in the kingdom.”



2. The term *inherit the kingdom* is used in 6 passages (Matt. 25:34; 1 Cor. 6:9, 10; 15:50; Gal. 5:21; Eph. 5:5).

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1 Corinthians 6:11, “And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.”

- 1. Who are the unrighteous (ἄδικοι, *adikoî*)? (v. 9)**
- 2. What does it mean to “inherit the kingdom”? (v. 9, 10)**



Delphi

Patara

4

Athens

Corinth

Isthmia

Olympia

Nemea

3

Peloponnese

3. Saronic Gulf

4. Gulf of Corinth

Mediterranean Sea

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- 1. Divisive, fractious, 1 Cor. 1:10ff**
- 2. Enthralled by Greek pagan philosophies, 1 Cor. 1:25ff**
- 3. Carnal: jealous, strife, 1 Cor. 3:1–3**
- 4. Self-important, 4:8**
- 5. Boasting, 1:29, 3:18, 4:7**
- 6. Arrogant, 3:6, 4:7, 4:18**
- 7. Licentious, morally permissive, ch. 5**
- 8. Sexually immoral, ch. 7**
- 9. Gluttenous drunkards, ch. 11**
- 10. Self-absorbed and pagan in their view of the gifts, 12–14**

Two Key Interpretive Words

ἄδικος *ádikos*; unrighteous or unsaved

κληρονομέω *klēronoméō*; inherit, possess

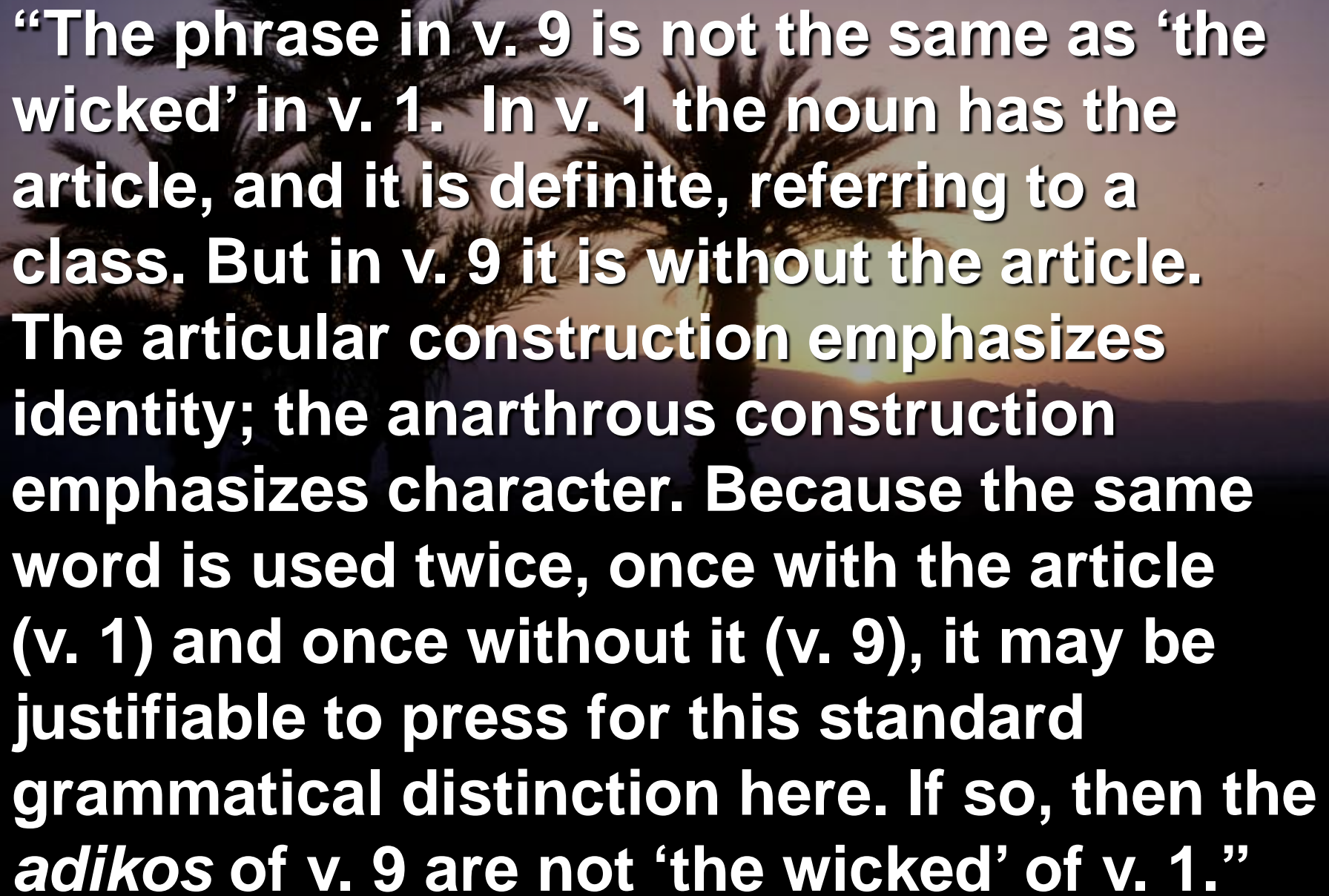
**Romans 3:5, “But if our
unrighteousness [ἄδικος, *ádikos*]
demonstrates the righteousness of
God, what shall we say? Is God unjust
[ἄδικος, *ádikos*] who inflicts wrath?
(I speak as a man.)”**

1 Cor. 6:1, “Does any one of you, when he has a case against his neighbor, dare to go to law before the unrighteous [ἄδικος, *ádikos*], and not before the saints?”

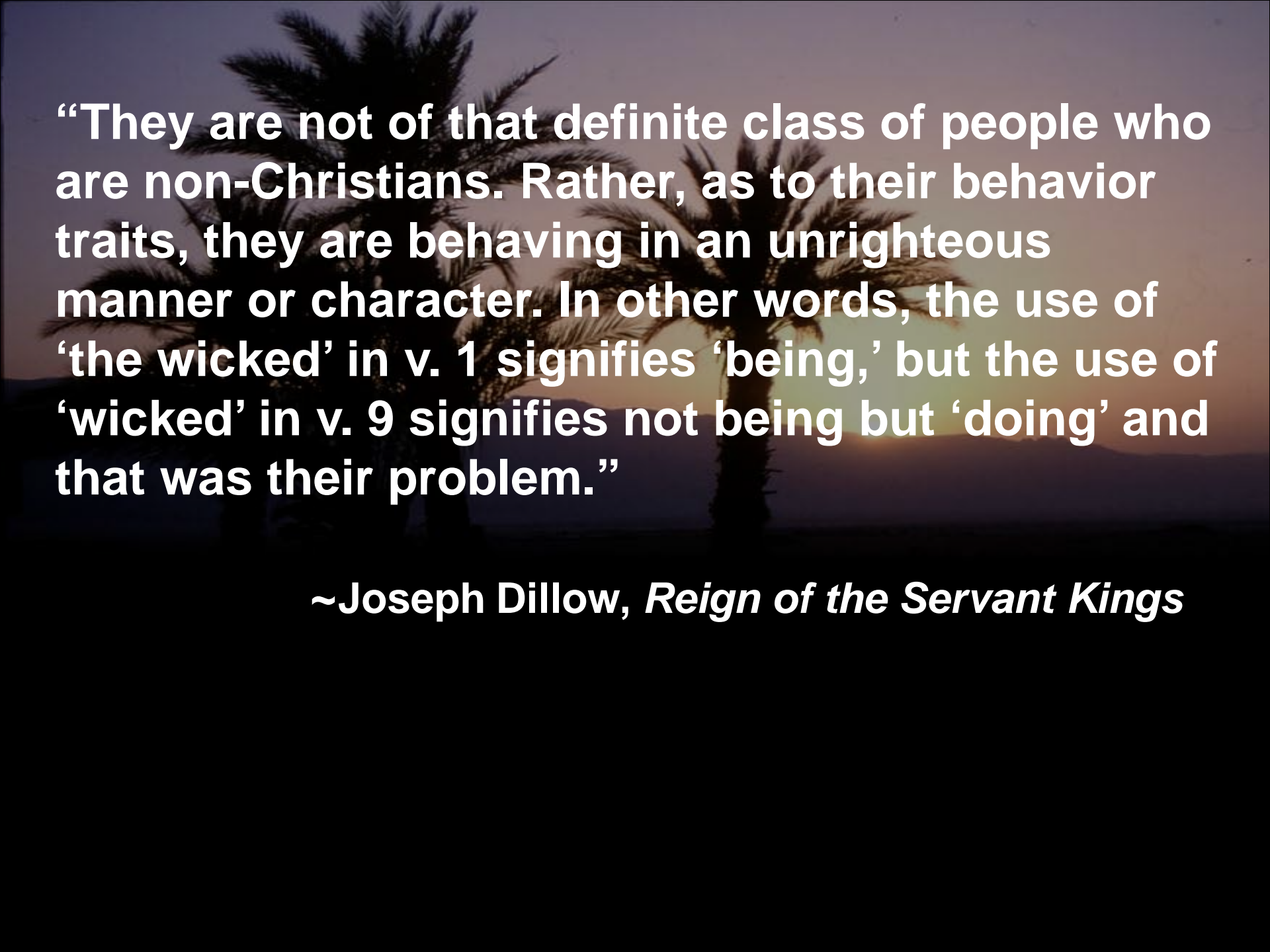
1 Corinthians 6:1, “Dare any of you, having a matter against another, go to law before the **unrighteous**, and not before the saints?”

1 Corinthians 6:9, “Do you not know that the **unrighteous** will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites,”

1 Corinthians 6:8, “No, you yourselves do wrong [not simply “wrong” NASB] and cheat, and you do these things to your brethren!”



“The phrase in v. 9 is not the same as ‘the wicked’ in v. 1. In v. 1 the noun has the article, and it is definite, referring to a class. But in v. 9 it is without the article. The articular construction emphasizes identity; the anarthrous construction emphasizes character. Because the same word is used twice, once with the article (v. 1) and once without it (v. 9), it may be justifiable to press for this standard grammatical distinction here. If so, then the *adikos* of v. 9 are not ‘the wicked’ of v. 1.”

The background of the slide features a serene sunset scene. The sky transitions from a deep purple at the top to a bright orange and yellow near the horizon. In the foreground, the dark silhouettes of several palm trees are visible, their fronds reaching upwards. The overall mood is contemplative and peaceful.

“They are not of that definite class of people who are non-Christians. Rather, as to their behavior traits, they are behaving in an unrighteous manner or character. In other words, the use of ‘the wicked’ in v. 1 signifies ‘being,’ but the use of ‘wicked’ in v. 9 signifies not being but ‘doing’ and that was their problem.”

~Joseph Dillow, *Reign of the Servant Kings*

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1 Corinthians 6:11, “And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.”

Titus 3:7, “that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.”

Galatians 4:7, “Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.”

Galatians 3:18, “For if the inheritance is of the law, it is no longer of promise; but God gave it to Abraham by promise.”

Ephesians 5:5, “For this you know, that no fornicator, unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.”

Colossians 3:23, “And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men,”

Colossians 3:24, “knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.”

Colossians 3:25, “But he who does wrong [*adikeo*] will be repaid for what he has done, and there is no partiality.”

Galatians 5:16, “I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.”

Galatians 5:19, “Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, Galatians 5:20, “idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies,”

**Galatians 5:21, “envy, murders,
drunkenness, revelries, and the like;
of which I tell you beforehand, just as
I also told you in time past, that those
who practice such things will not
inherit the kingdom of God.”**