

NURSERY MINISTRY WORKERS FOR THIS WEEK

10:50 a.m. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Charity Crawford
Cradle Roll 2: Volunteer Needed!
6:30 p.m. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: LeAnna White
Cradle Roll 2: Volunteer Needed!
Wed. Evening Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Shirley White
Cradle Roll 2: Volunteer Needed

AND THE PEOPLE CAME...

Week of June 4, 2017

Sunday School ----- 32
Sunday Morning Service ----- 37
Sunday Evening Service ----- 27
Wed. Eve. Service, 06/07/17 ----- 24

AND THE PEOPLE GAVE...

- Week of June 4, 2017 -

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 1,349.42
Total Received for Week of 06/04/17: \$1,349.42

- Week of May 28, 2017 -

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 546.25
Total Received for Week of 05/28/17: \$ 546.25

- Week of May 21, 2017 -

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 723.30
Total Received for Week of 05/21/17: \$ 723.30

- Week of May 14, 2017 -

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 1,089.25
Total Received for Week of 05/14/17: \$ 1,089.25

Average amount of Undesignated Offerings needed to operate the church EACH WEEK, as a minimum = \$ 1,400.00

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE SAVED

1. Admit that you are a sinner.
2. Admit that God says all sins must be paid for.
3. Accept the fact that Christ took upon Himself the suffering necessary to pay for all your sins.
4. You must change your mind about sin and sinning (God calls this repentance).
5. By an act of your will, accept by faith the Lord Jesus Christ, who can save you from the penalty of sin. Then, tell God about this in a simple prayer. Believe that God keeps His promise to save you, and thank Him for His salvation.



Please Remember To Be Faithful To Give!

As with everything else, the costs of keeping a church going never go down - they always go up. Bills wait for no one, and churches are no exception to this. An extra, sacrificial gift today by everyone present would go a long way...

We encourage all of our membership to practice obedience to God by being faithful every payday to give back to Him His tithe (10%). If every family in our church would practice this one simple discipline, we would never have weeks where we have to put off paying some bills until the following week!

Everything is expensive, especially for a small church like ours, but ours is a BIG God, and He LOVES to bless His children when they are obedient to Him!

If you are already a tither, we thank you, and encourage you to also give offerings as well. If you're currently not tithing, won't you please start today - OK? Thank you.

Church Directory

Todd W. White ----- Pastor
Mickie Shatwell ----- Pianist
Lois Mae Floyd ----- Pianist/ Organist
Rayna Crawford ----- Greeter
Shayne Hooper, Brian Crawford, Charity Crawford, LeAnna White -- S.S. Teachers
Larry & Mary Byars, ----- Outreach
Bertha Segebart ----- Custodian
Flowers ----- Shirley White, Charity Crawford

SOUTH HEIGHTS BAPTIST'S WEEKLY
REMINDER

Volume XXIII

June 11, 2017

Number 19



**The Great Falling Away:
How Satan Is Preparing Mankind
For The One-World Religion Of
The Antichrist (part 2)**

by Pastor Todd W. White

Last week, I began sharing with you some things that God has laid on my heart about the current condition of christendom, the condition of the church immediately prior to the Rapture, and how Satan is preparing mankind for his one-world religion under the antichrist.

Let me sum up what I said and add some things along the way, too:

I. Before The Antichrist Can Be Revealed, There Must Be A "Falling Away" In The Church -

In his second letter to the Thessalonian believers, the Apostle Paul said -

"Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition" - II Thess. 2:3

- A. The basic sequence of events of the end of time as we know it will be:
 1. There will be a great falling away,
 2. The Christians of the Church Age will be removed during what is known to us as The Rapture,
 3. The Antichrist will be revealed, then, after 7 years,
 4. Christ will return to rule and reign for 1000 years.
- B. The great "falling away" that happens prior to the revealing of the Antichrist and his one-world government, his one-world economy, and his one-world religion will NOT be lots and lots of empty church buildings. Rather, it will be a religious world comprised of **empty people**. The passage for this, as we discussed last week, is Revelation 3:20, where Christ Himself speaks of standing at the door of the church asking to be let back in. This occurs during the Laodicean era of church history, which is the time period we live in right now.
- C. Though Christ is and will save souls during the last days of Church history, it will not be on a wide scale as it was in the past - it will be on a small, individual scale.
- D. The reason He will be outside of the Church looking in (and I might say that, in reality, He already is), is **because He is being forced out by the people inside**. By and large, many of those who name Him as their Saviour, by their very actions and attitudes (some knowingly, others unknowingly) are **forcing** him out of the Church.
- E. The one-world religion of the antichrist will be one that is empty of doctrinal truth, and will be characterized by an overemphasis on emotionalism, intellectualism, and mysticism (see II Thessalonians 2:9-12 and Revelation Chapter 13; Revelation 16:14; Revelation 19:20) .
- F. To achieve this, Satan will have to empty all faiths of any and all semblances of substance, so that the antichrist will become the "substance" - the object of worship - of the new one-world religion (Rev. 13:12).
- G. Emptying all systems of faith in the world of any real substance has already been accomplished, with two exceptions:
 - K Orthodox Judaism, and
 - K Orthodox Christianity (also known as conservative or fundamentalist Christianity).

(continued inside)

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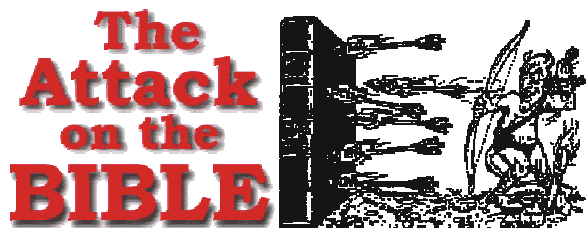
H. These two are the only things standing in the way of Satan's plan to create a one-world religion. He'll deal with the Jews during the tribulation, but he'll have to get bible-based Christianity to apostasize - *to fall away* - first, in order for the Church Age to end, for the Holy Spirit to cease His hindering of the revealing of the Man of Sin, and for the master-plan he began through Nimrod can come to fruition (see II Thess. Chapter 2; Genesis Chapter 10; and Rev. 1:19 & 4:1).

I. In order to eviscerate Christianity, Satan has to strip it of its foundation, which is its dependence on the Word of God - *the Bible*.

This has been going on for all of time as we know it, beginning in Genesis 3:1 ("*Yea, hath God said...?*"), through the questioning and ultimate abandonment by most churches, denominations, and even professing Christians of the truth of the inspiration, infallibility, inerrancy, preservation, and authority of the Bible. This poisoning of the minds of most professing Christians has come about by many methods, most notably through textual criticism, and is happening even this down to this very hour - when man's *experience* has become the preeminent criteria upon which all religious thought is based. It is this emphasis on man's experience - *not the Word of God* - that is fueling the falling away the Apostle Paul spoke of in his second letter to the Church in Thessalonica, and will be the same vehicle Satan uses to catapult the antichrist to the place of adoration and worship in the one-world religion of the Tribulation.

J. The manner in which Satan is carrying this out is slow and ponderous, yet no less dangerous or effective. He cannot change it all overnight - he has to gently "*nudge*" the people in the churches towards it, or they'd rebel and his plan would be foiled.

Now - having reminded us of these things, let's look for a moment at how Satan has and is working to destroy the effectiveness of the foundation of our faith - The Bible - in the hearts and minds of mankind:



God has placed a lot of importance upon His word.

"Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my WORDS shall not pass away" (Matthew 24:35).

"... for thou hast magnified thy WORD above all thy name" (Psalm 138:2).

"For ever, O LORD, thy WORD is settled in heaven" (Psalm 119:89).

The spiritual life-blood of the human race is the Word of God:

*** It brings salvation:** *"Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God. . ." (I Peter 1:23)*

*** It produces faith:** *"... faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God"* (Romans 10:17).

*** It produces spiritual growth:** *"...desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby"* (I Peter 2:2).

Jesus Christ said in John 6:63, *"...the words that I speak unto you, they are SPIRIT, and they are LIFE."* Small wonder that the first time Satan attacked the human race was done using a direct attack on the Word of God!

In his book, *The Bible For Today's World*, my pastor in Dallas, Dr. W. A. Criswell said the following with regard to why it is so important for us to have in our hands an uncorrupted copy of the Word of God:

"If a man ever sees the face of God, if a man ever goes to heaven, he must go by the revelation and truth imparted to us in the holy Word of God. There is no other way to be saved....There is only one way to be saved and that way is revealed in the sacred book."

Because of this Satan started early, in the Garden of Eden, by planting a small seed of doubt into the mind of Eve. As Eve questioned the truthfulness of God's Word - the fall of mankind was only a bite away, and beloved, Satan's main attack on mankind has not changed!

Jesus said, in Luke 8:11-12, that the Devil comes to take away the Word. That's his primary purpose - to deceive mankind by preventing them, if he can, from hearing the true Word of God.

If Satan is going to have mankind ready for the one-world religion of the Antichrist, he MUST distance mankind from the truth of the Word of God to the point that they will accept The Beast as their all-in-one leader. There are many ways to do this, and he tailors his methods for the type of person he's targeting. He attacks it:

*** Historically** - through attempts to prove that the Bible is not accurate in its account of the histories it presents.

*** Scientifically** - through the elevation and near worship of science apart from (and supposedly superior to) the Word of God.

*** Intellectually** - through the pseudo-intellectualism that cannot and will not acknowledge the existence of God.

These areas, while very effective on the general populace, are not as persuasive as they need to be in the minds and hearts of those who are in the Church. So - Satan began many years ago a program of working at undermining the faith of those in the Church *from the inside*.

Only life in Christ, as brought to us in God's Holy Word, can bring peace, happiness, and joy to our lives. Without His life, we care empty. Satan is working to destroy any and all confidence in God's Word that men may have so that he can prime them for the one-world religion of the Tribulation, where mankind will be deceived into accept his counterfeit messiah, and the Antichrist will be worshiped, instead of the one true Christ. Now, while it is relatively easy to manipulate the minds of those who have no

Faith, it's quite another to pull the legs out from under the foundation of the Church - the Bible. To try to do so quickly would incur the ire of the people in the pews - the attempts of the folks who publish the NIV found this out when they attempted to bring a "gender-neutral" version of the NIV to America: it was met with such resistance that they dropped the idea completely.

Therefore, he began to do this well over 100 years ago by casting doubt as to the reliability of the texts from which our King James Version of the Bible was translated. I've written about this here before, so I will not go into detail here about it again, but suffice to say that, by sponsoring the higher-critical method of Bible study, and through the release of "superior" manuscripts, Satan has succeeded in diluting the Bible to the point that it no longer **IS** the Word of God, it merely *contains* the Word of God.

Never in history has such doubt and confusion over the Bible existed as is today, and nothing has flamed the fire of confusion and doubt over the Bible more than the scores of different translations flooding the scene. Even Time magazine (April 20, 1981 p.62) reported, *"...there is an UNPRECEDENTED CONFUSION of choices in Bibles. Never have so many major new translations been on the market."* Since 1880, over 200

different translations have appeared. Every six months a new English version appears! **SMALL WONDER PEOPLE ARE CONFUSED!** This is all part of the smokescreen of the Devil - to cast doubt and confusion in the minds of those in the churches as to the reliability of the Bible as the inspired, inerrant, infallible Word of God.

With regard to what happens if the veracity of Scripture is destroyed, Dr. Criswell well said:

"As long as we hold to our hearts this Holy Book, with its revelation from the God of heaven who can see the end from the beginning, we have a message that can save our souls....As long as the Bible is the course of our doctrine and of our preaching; as long as its message is our faith; as long as God's Word is dear to us - the Word Incarnate which is Jesus, the Word written which is the Holy Bible, the Word spoken by the mouth of the living God which the prophets and apostles

heard - as long as the Word is precious to our souls, we hope, we have faith, we have strength, we have salvation, we have heaven and all that God has prepared for those who love Him.

"But when the basis of our persuasion and our hope is destroyed, the whole revelation of God in Christ turns to dust and ashes in our hands. There is then no authority, no revelation, no ultimate Word, and we live in a world of hopeless and darkening despair" (Page 108).

Today, precious few believe that they hold in their hands the inspired Word of God - like one of my daughter's teachers at a professedly Christian school told me, they believe that modern "scholarship" has produced "better" manuscripts and, thus, a better, more reliable translation of the Bible for the modern day world. The actual reality is the opposite: the corrupted manuscripts that came through Alexandria will one day be demonstrated as such, and the bulk of Christendom will no longer have any ground to stand on, whereupon the Antichrist will enter, give them something/someone to believe in, and they will believe the lie - that HE is the messiah, and that his religion is the only TRUE religion.

- more next week



The Word of God shall stand forever—Isaiah 40:8