

THE GREAT APOSTASY

PROPHECY – VOL. IX

PART 2

BY

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And

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THE GREAT APOSTASY

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THE GREAT APOSTASY

PREFACE

Many Christians who know The Truth of God and His Son, Jesus have been taught that “a great falling away” must happen just before Christ’s return. What may not be realized is the great falling away from the truth occurred thousands of years ago. Just forty years after the birth of Christ, Paul reveals the anti-Christ and the falling away from The Truth was already in play (II Thessalonians 2). In fact, there were many false preachers or anti-Christ’s about 50 a.d. according to Paul.

By the end of the first century, Christianity was already corrupted with false teachings against The Real True Jesus. In this book, you will read the outstanding account of this falling away as proved biblically and historically documented. In fact, Jesus prophesied after His death and resurrection, that many would come in His Name, by His authority, and deceive many (Matthew 24). Most of this book was written by Clyde Brown. He has a special gift for Bible history. My contribution is the biblical content.

When you see this eye-opening account of the early church history, you, too, will have proven that the first century churches were already riddled with the corruption of false teachings. No monies can ever be accepted, but feel free to offer any comments or criticisms. Ask for your free CD containing eleven books which you can read on your computer. Also, feel free to ask biblical questions by mail or e-mail art@mokarow.com. You may download books 1 through 11 plus new ones as they are completed from the Web site www.godspuzzlesolved.com.

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<i>The White Throne Judgment</i>	<i>God's Will</i>	<i>God's Three Houses</i>

CHAPTER 1

A HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

A historical perspective on the text of II Thessalonians 2:3 is given clarity through history. As shocking as it might sound, “the falling away” (Greek: “apostasia”) was and is a historical event. It is not just limited to some theoretical futuristic fulfillment. What is meant by the words: “falling away?” Is it possible that The Gentile Holy Roman Empire could have departed from the faith and then apostatized *The New Testament Gospel*? It should be every person’s desire to properly discern the historical evidence that is available – and now awaiting disclosure.

A falling away through heretical teaching had already begun when The Apostle Paul wrote II Thessalonians. By the time of The Apostle John, The Apostasy had deepened. By the middle of The 2nd Century A.D., an even greater descent had begun. In 325 A.D., The Roman Emperor Constantine made **the apostasy** official. Darkness had descended. The Apostasy was a gradual development that began in The First Century A.D., as early as 50 A.D. There were those teaching The Day of The Lord had already come. This was the beginning of a different gospel that eventually led to The Holy Roman Empire.

Satan’s Deception

As *The New Testament* reveals, The Apostles realized that the

beginning of the falling away from **the true** teachings of Christ made it necessary for *The New Testament* to be assembled into book form. With the writing of *The Book of Revelation*, some of The Seven Churches in Asia Minor were being corrupted by pagan doctrines (*Revelation Uncovered*). Satan was instituting a superb marketing plan in his attempt to deceive The Christian Church. His marketing plan was to influence priests, ministers, elders, many scribes, books, newspapers, magazines, radio, TV and computers to drive Christians away from Christ and God, The Father.

Satan's Ploy

Christ said, "**Man shall live by every Word of God**" (Matthew 4:4). What did Satan do? He used *The Scriptures* to attempt to deceive Christ at His "**temptation**" but it didn't work. Satan's system is to use half-truths to influence God's people. This is Satan's plan to keep God's children from becoming His sons and daughters. Satan employed his full effort in using half-truths against Christians to make you believe you actually have the full truth of God. That is, exactly, what happened to The First Century Church of God which started on Pentecost. To prove it for yourself you must examine the history of The New Testament Church.

God's Law

At the birth of The Church on Pentecost, you find The Apostles continuing to worship in **the temple** in Jerusalem (Acts 3:1). They were, at that time, Christians with God's Holy Spirit, so why did The Apostles continue to pray in **the temple**? **The temple** was still God's house, as long as the **second temple** stood. The conversion of Cornelius (the first Gentile God-fearer) received God's Holy Spirit without being circumcised. Although he was

a Christian, he was not allowed to enter **the sacred courts of the temple**.

No Gentile (even one who had accepted The God of Israel) could enter **the sacred courts** without being circumcised. This was Satan's golden opportunity to divide Christians between The Jewish Christians and The Gentile believers. Satan used God's Law to divide and conquer Christianity right from its inception. Jews and the circumcised Gentiles could continue to worship in **the temple**. But, all the new uncircumcised Christians were not permitted into **the sacred courts of the temple**. Some Pharisees, who believed in Jesus, started to complain to the elders and Apostles in Jerusalem that The Gentiles must be circumcised. Satan had his opening.

Paul, James and Peter along with the other Apostles and elders and finally the entire Jerusalem Church, agreed it was not necessary for the uncircumcised Gentiles with God's Holy Spirit, to keep The Law or be circumcised. Barnabas and Saul were sent to **the mother church** in Jerusalem as a result of an incident that happened in Antioch. Peter and Barnabas were eating at **the table of fellowship** with the uncircumcised Gentiles and immediately removed themselves when they saw their brethren from Jerusalem (Acts 15).

The **Judaizers** claimed The Gentile God-fearer had to be circumcised and keep The Law of Moses in order to be **saved**. After much counsel a decree was sent to Antioch and it was agreed that The Gentiles did not need to be circumcised or keep The Law of Moses (Acts 15). The decree included refraining from idolatry, fornication and from the eating of blood. The decree was probably some version of The Levitical **commandments of cleanliness**. This decree was based on The Noahite Commandment given by

God at the time of the flood. The decree allowed table-fellowship and the sharing of meals between The Messianic Jews and The Gentiles who had already turned to **The One True God** and now accepted Jesus as The Messiah. The issue in **the church** over The Gentiles having to be circumcised was resolved and was no longer a problem in Antioch or any of the other **churches**.

Up to this point, no falling away from the truth had occurred. After the Acts 15 decree there is no scriptural evidence the “so-called” Judaizers continued to persuade The Gentiles to become Jews.

Paul warned the **mystery of iniquity** was already creeping into The Christian Church (II Thessalonians 2:7). This was a deception or ploy by Satan to introduce pagan doctrine into Christianity, which eventually would deceive the whole world.

The history of The Ministry of Jesus Christ is first presented in The Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke. After Jesus’ death, resurrection and exaltation to the right hand of God **in heaven**, **the church** began on the memorial day of Pentecost (Acts 2). **The Holy Spirit of God was poured out and the sign of the new beginning of repentance, baptism and the receiving of The Holy Spirit of God**. God never took away the human right to choose, so Satan stood ready to take advantage. **The history of choice** is what the story in this booklet is all about.

CHAPTER 2

HISTORICAL BASIS FOR THE APOSTASY

Paul's first and second letter to The Thessalonians has been dated from 49 – 52 A.D. Let's begin with the profound statements by The Apostle Paul (II Thessalonians 2:3-7). Paul predicts a falling away will occur before The Return of Jesus Christ. Paul states, "The mystery of iniquity is already working and you must withdraw yourselves from every brother that walks disorderly" (Verses 5, 7). False teachings were creeping into The Church about The Kingdom to the point of denying The Resurrection. The book *Revelation Uncovered* states John wrote about this in Revelation 18:4.

Paul was having trouble with false brethren teaching "a gospel" which was not another gospel, but a deceptive scheme of perverting the only true Gospel. God had cleansed and accepted The Gentiles, so salvation was not only for The Children of Israel but The Gentiles, also. Through Christ, the restoration of God had been accomplished. God was not only The God of Israel, but also The God of The God-fearing Gentiles.

Many Pharisees had, also, joined themselves to The Nazarene **movement** and had come to accept Jesus as The Messiah. But they claimed The Gentiles had to be circumcised and had to keep The Law of Moses to be **saved**. In the eyes of these Judaizers, it meant The Gentile Christian had to become "a Jew" – "religiously speaking."

Although The Jerusalem Apostles verbally ruled this was not the case, The Judaizers continued to insist The Gentiles be circumcised (Acts 11). When Paul wrote to The Galatians he marveled that they were so soon removed from the teaching of The One who had called them into **the grace** of Christ. Paul states it is not another **gospel** rather a perversion of **the true** Gospel they have been taught (Galatians 1:7). In The Mosaic Covenant The Gentile had to be circumcised and keep all The Law to be an inheritor of The Commonwealth of Israel (Exodus 12:48-49).

God pronounced uncircumcised Gentiles who have accepted The One True God of Israel were to be accepted in **the household** of **faith** without being required to keep the customs of The Jews. Although The Judaizers were overlooking the fact that God had pronounced The Gentiles clean, they misunderstood this aspect of The True Gospel. It was still not another gospel, as yet (Acts 10). Are you becoming aware of Satan's devices?

Satan's first deceit began in The Garden of Eden, as a serpent, with his ability to appear as "**an angel of light.**" What Satan is and what he appears to be, is quite different. He used God's words of truth and twisted them into a lie which is very characteristic of Satan as when he used "partial truths" in The Garden of Eden. So, it is not surprising that a lie was being foisted upon The Thessalonians. There were false teachers saying The Day of The Lord had already come (II Thessalonians 2:4). Who would have been teaching The Day of The Lord had already come? If The Day of The Lord already came, then God's "**kingdom**" had to, also, appear on this earth.

Steps Toward The Holy Empire

The mystery of **iniquity** and **lawlessness** was already invading

The Thessalonians Church. *The Scriptures* are very clear. Jesus would **return** and establish The Kingdom of God on the earth. The Disciples had questioned Jesus, “**Will you at this time restore again The Kingdom to Israel?**” Jesus answered that it was not for them to know the times or the seasons, as it was in the hands of God (Acts 1: 6-7). It is important to realize Jesus **did not** deny The Restoration of The Kingdom of God. It was only the timing of The Restoration The Disciples were not to know. **Satan** would eventually **mask The Holy Roman Empire itself as The Kingdom of God**. This is The Fourth Kingdom of Daniel, which The Messiah (Christ) destroys when He **returns**.

No Jew taught from *The Hebrew Scriptures*, who had accepted Jesus as The Messiah, would have ever made a statement such as The Day of The Lord had already come.

The Kingdom of God restored to the whole House of Israel was a theme recorded in almost all of The Prophets of God in *The Hebrew Scriptures*. If this teaching did not come from The Jewish Disciples of Jesus that means, only The Gentiles were teaching The Day of The Lord had already come. As amazing as it may sound, Satan was using his own servants for his purpose and it was to Satan’s advantage. The Holy Roman Empire would become, “the servant of Satan” and as early as 49 – 52 A.D. It was then the foundation of Satan’s plan was laid. Since Jesus had already come in The Spirit, Satan’s plan would be that **The Kingdom of God** would be **The Holy Roman Empire**.

You do not need to judge the hearts of those, in what became The Holy Roman Empire, but be aware, less you, yourself, find yourselves in Satan’s religious system. In any case, to teach “The Day of The Lord had already come” **was false** and without any “**scriptural**” support. Messianic Jews who had accepted Jesus as

The Messiah, The Anointed of God knew for a certainty that The Return of Jesus had **not** occurred. The Gospel of The Kingdom of God was being perverted without any “**scriptural**” support. **The servants of Satan** were already at work in The Thessalonians’ Church.

CHAPTER 3

WHO WERE THESE FALSE APOSTLES?

The Church at Corinth had many problems and Paul addressed them in his first letter. In the second letter, he reported false apostles and servants of Satan were making inroads into The Corinthian Church. You must fully understand these false apostles and direct your attention to them. Satan, as a predator, attacks the weakest link. The Corinthian Church, perhaps of all the congregations, was the most carnal. Paul's first letter to The Corinthians is admonishing them for starting divisions.

Some were saying some are of Paul, others of Apollos and still others of Cephas (Peter). Still others were claiming to be of Christ but Paul found many in the groups were “false apostles” and were “the servants” of Satan. The opponents of Paul were: **False apostles, deceitful workmen and those who masquerade as Apostles of Christ.**

You can identify these false “apostles” as the very ones who claimed they were of Christ, but actually served Satan and his evil plan. Notice what these false apostles were claiming: **“²¹What anyone else dares to boast about [speaking foolishly], I dare also to boast about the same thing. ²²Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they descendants of Abraham? So am I. ²³Are they servants of Christ? [talking like I am out of my mind] I am even more so”** (II Corinthians

11:21-23).

These are false apostles who are not servants of Christ. These false apostles were claiming to be of Christ and if they are lying about that, would they not be lying about most everything else? Masquerading as **apostles** of Christ implies **everything** they were claiming to be was a masquerade, as well.

The “notes” in *The NIV Study Bible* may make II Corinthians 11:22, more clear. **“Hebrews...Israelites...Abraham’s descendants. The claims implied here on the part of the false apostles indicate they were Jews who felt superior to Gentile Christians. From this there follows the probability that they were Judaizers, i.e., they wished to impose distinctive Jewish practices and observances as required for Gentile converts.”**

The scholars who produced the NIV “notes” have completely missed the point of what “a masquerade” is. What they were claiming to be was nothing but a lie. These false apostles were deceiving The Corinthians, with their masquerade. In the NIV notes, it appears the scholars, themselves, have believed a lie. Paul is confronting their lies, by saying that, he, in a greater way, is a true Apostle compared to them.

Paul is boasting as “a fool,” to confront the lies of these false apostles. Are they of Christ? How does Paul answer that question? **“³But I am afraid that just as the serpent deceived Eve by his treachery, your minds may be lead astray from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ. ⁴For if someone comes and proclaims another Jesus different than the one we proclaimed, or if you receive another spirit than the one you received, or a different gospel than the one you accepted, you put up with it well enough”** (NIV) (II Corinthians 11:3-4).

They are not servants of Jesus Christ which Paul used as a parity. If they have convinced you they are what they claim to be, then Paul said, he, himself is more than what these **false super apostles** claim to be, who are actually servants of Satan. The whole masquerade is the fact they are not what they claim to be and The Corinthians seem to have fallen for their lies. **These false apostles were not Jews, not Hebrews, not Israelites; they were Greek false apostles who had crept in, and were, the servants of Satan.** Although, they claimed to be of The Jewish Apostles.

Paul calls these Gentile false apostles what they are, which is the opposite of what they have claimed. Paul puts it like this in II Corinthians 11:13-15. **“¹³For such people are false apostles, deceitful workers, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ. ¹⁴And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. ¹⁵Therefore it is not surprising his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness, whose end will correspond to their actions.”**

The so-called Judaizers, themselves, never claimed to be apostles. Their argument was The Gentiles had to be circumcised and had to keep all of *The Torah* to be saved. Paul calls their message **false** but continues to call them **brethren** (Galatians 2:4-5).

Paul is referring to an incident that occurred in Antioch, which was before The Jerusalem Conference (Act 15). The Antioch incident was after the famine relief visit to Jerusalem (Acts 11:27-30). (Once The Acts 15 Conference was held and the decree was sent to the churches, there is no evidence, that those from The Jerusalem Church continued to attempt to “Judaize” The Gentiles).

The second visit to Jerusalem to which Paul is referring in The Galatians Letter is not The Acts 15 – Jerusalem Conference.

Note, this is still debated in scholarly circles. But, the chronology of Luke's Acts of The Apostles is to be preferred over the contention that Luke has incorrectly made the famine relief of Acts 11:27-30 the second visit. In other words, many scholars claim the visit in Acts 11:27-30, is actually the same visit as Acts 15. But this would mean that James, Peter, John and the entire Jerusalem Churches had reneged on the official decree of Acts 15 and that is impossible and is irresponsible to teach or try to expound.

This is decidedly unfair to the integrity of The Jerusalem Church and especially The Jerusalem Apostles who had been with Jesus during His entire historical ministry. The chronology of Luke in The Acts of The Apostles should be taken as valid and credible. Once you do, you understand the Jerusalem decree regarding the uncircumcised Gentiles was sent to the churches. There is not the slightest evidence the uncircumcised Gentile believers were ever again being forced into Judaism, nor forced to do The Letter of The Law.

The false teaching that The Day of The Lord “**had already come**” in The II Thessalonians Letter, came from The Gentiles – teaching an entirely different gospel. The Jews, including The Pharisees and Priests, who had accepted Jesus as The Anointed Messiah, have been wrongly accused of causing trouble in The Gentile Churches. When Luke's chronology in *The Book of Acts* is given validity, as it should be, the false apostles, those servants of Satan, are in most cases **Gentiles** masquerading as Apostles of Christ. As you will observe, the servants of Satan made inroads into **the churches**, the first time, in Corinth and then, it was spread to the other churches. It may be those teaching The Thessalonians had come from Corinth.

The second letter to The Corinthian Church is the clearest exam-

ple that the false apostles – the servants of Satan, were most likely Gentiles who had never truly accepted The One True God of Israel or *The Gospel* of The True Christ, The Anointed of God.

These false apostles were not Jews or Israelites, but rather Gentiles who had never accepted *The Gospel* teaching of The True Apostles in the first place (II Corinthians 11). Instead, they were servants of Satan attempting to counter **the purpose** and **plan** of God. At first glance it may seem circumstantial but when you have the correct time-line of all the events, you, too, will come to the same conclusions. The beginning of the apostasy began much earlier than has been previously recognized. The **scholarly focus** has been directed toward the so-called Judaizers and therefore, missing all the devices of Satan.

The servants of Satan, as the false apostles, invaded **the churches** and Paul calls them what they were, which is directly opposite to what they claimed to be. With this focus on Corinth, direct your attention to a companion of Paul named Gaius. Gaius is mentioned five times – four times in relation to The Apostle Paul and once in *III John*. This means Gaius has played a great part in the history of **the church**. Later in *III John*, Gaius upholds the true teachings from Jerusalem, while there is a “named character” who opposes The Jerusalem Missionaries.

CHAPTER 4

GAIUS, THE FAITHFUL SAINT

Paul mentions he baptized Crispus and Gaius (I Corinthians 1:14). In Romans 16:24 Gaius of The Corinth Church hosts Paul and it is from Corinth he writes the letter to “the church” in Rome. The implication is Gaius is in a key leadership position in The Corinth Church. Gaius is also mentioned in Acts 19:29 and Acts 20:24 when a riot broke out in Ephesus because many throughout Asia Minor were turning to *The Gospel*.

Demetrius was a silversmith, who along with other craftsmen made their livelihood making various crafts relating to the goddess Diana. Again those confronting Paul were not Jews but rather Gentiles who made their living selling idols and trinkets of the pagan goddess “Diana.” Gaius was with Paul along with other Disciples who fled Ephesus. You meet Gaius again in *III John*. Could the same Gaius in *III John* be the same Gaius who along with Paul and the other Disciples were run out of Ephesus? Scholars admit there is no sure way (historically) to tell if Gaius who was the companion of Paul and his host in Corinth, was the same person in *III John*.

Most consider the three letters of John were written from Ephesus. But this depends more on the unproven assumption that The Elder is The Apostle John who is thought to have written *The Book of Revelation*. Since it is an assumption in either case, you must take the position that The Elder who wrote **the three letters**

which has been assigned to John is **not** the same author, John, of *The Book of Revelation*. Some scholars point to the literary differences between *The Book of Revelation* and **the three letters** from The Elder.

The Apostle John was given the revelations before the **destruction** of **the second temple** which was even more compelling (Revelation 11:1-2). The implications are **the second temple** was still standing when John is instructed in vision to measure **the temple**. Remember, *The Book of Revelation* was only given to The Seven Churches in Asia Minor.

After John was released from the prison, he wrote **the introduction** to The Seven Churches in Asia Minor. In Revelation 1:9-10, John remarks these are the revelations he received while he was on The Isle of Patmos. The most likely time for John and others to have been exiled to The Isle of Patmos is when Nero was using The Christians as scapegoats; blaming them for the fire, which he, himself, had set in the burning of Rome.

Not only is the style of The Elder so different between *The Book of Revelation* and **the three letters**; you may consider **the three letters** as written by an unnamed **elder**. In reality, the scribe or writer is not what is important, but that it is *scripture*, which God “**inspired.**”

This, then, leaves The Apostle John as the author of *The Book of Revelation*. Most scholars contend Paul wrote the letter to The Romans from Corinth and was hosted by Gaius who resided in Corinth.

It is best to take **the third letter** from The Elder, who for the sake of clarity will be called John, even though the letters could **not** be

The Apostle John who wrote *The Book of Revelation*.

In III John, you meet a leader of **the church** or **churches** named Diotrephes. In his leadership over a church or group of churches he has the power to excommunicate any member who receives the missionaries from The Jerusalem Church.

Diotrephes, The Apostate In III John

III John is addressed in this manner: “**The Elder unto the well beloved Gaius, who I love in the truth**” (III John 1:1). “**5Dear friend, you demonstrate faithfulness by whatever you do for the brothers. 6They have testified to your love for the church. You do well to send them on their way in a manner worthy of God**” (II John 1:5-6).

The Elder is commending Gaius for his receiving the brothers from The Jerusalem Church. It was customary to send missionaries out from The Mother Church in Jerusalem. Gaius began a **home church** in Corinth (Romans 16:3). The Fourth Gospel, as well as **the three letters**, we’re penned by the same individual; therefore, Jerusalem is the likely location from which the missionaries were sent.

It is most likely Gaius is the same person in *III John* as in: Acts 19:29 and 20:4; Romans 16:23; and I Corinthians 1:14. Paul was imprisoned in Caesarea in 56-57 A.D. The Corinthian Churches were comprised of Messianic Jews, Gentiles and Missionaries from The Mother Church in Jerusalem and is the context of *III John*. It doesn’t matter who The Elder was who was writing **these three letters**; irregardless, James, The Lord’s brother, was the leader of The Jerusalem Church until he was murdered in the spring of 62 A.D.

The Elder speaks not as an Apostle, as James, The Lord's brother, but as an Elder who was taught by James and other Jerusalem Apostles. While Paul was imprisoned in 56-57 A.D., The Sanhedrin Jewish court murdered James in 62 A.D. You may place **the third letter** of The Elder sometime after 62 A.D. and before the destruction of The Jerusalem Temple, which occurred in the fall of 70 A.D.

When The Apostle Paul was completely out of the picture with his imprisonment, the care of **the churches** in Corinth and Asia Minor would naturally become the responsibility of The Jerusalem Church. Gaius welcomed the brothers from The Jerusalem Church. On the other hand, Diotrefes, who was in a lead position of another **church** in Corinth, would **not** receive the brothers (Verse 9). Yet, when any of the members in **the church** did receive them, they, **themselves**, were put out of **the church**.

In *III John*, there is a break away from the leadership of The Jerusalem Church. As demonstrated in II Corinthian 11, false apostles, deceitful workers and servants of Satan had already made inroads into The Corinthian Churches.

Scholars date Paul's **two letters** to The Corinthian Churches sometime around 55 A.D. If **the third letter** of The Elder is sent after Paul's imprisonment in 56-57, and after the death of James, The Lord's brother, in 62 A.D., the evidence is strong for this **third letter** being written sometime between 62 and before 67 A.D. This date would naturally lend evidence that Gaius, Paul's companion, was the same Gaius in *III John*.

When **the second letter** of Paul to The Thessalonians is placed in 51-52 A.D., lawlessness was already affecting **the church**. The II Corinthians letter in 55 A.D. allows compelling evidence to be

strung together and shows a continuous chain of events where **the servants** of Satan were making inroads into The Churches of God.

Thus far, the historical evidence points not to the so-called Judaizers who were saying to The Thessalonians – “**The day of The Lord has already come.**” The evidence is much stronger than those falsely teaching The Thessalonians, were the same false apostles who were the servants of Satan, in I Corinthians, Chapters 10 and 11. For clarity’s sake, regard **the second letter** to The Thessalonians and **the third letter** from The Elder as written by John. Also, **the second letter** to The Corinthians, when **set into a correct chronology** and **time-line events** along with the **other letters**, suggests a compelling case that unconverted Greeks, the so-called patriarchs (not Judaizers) were perverting *The Gospel of God*.

The **new addition** of *The Anchor Bible Dictionary* under the heading of “*Diotrephes*” describes what is historically known of him. In *III John*, several scholars attempt an explanation with the problem The Elder was having with Diotrephes. The explanation begins with III John 9-10. “**9An early churchman who asserted authority over all in his local church, rejected the authority of the elder who wrote III John, ¹⁰attacked the elder in public, forbade anyone to receive the Elder’s emissaries and excluded all who did.**”

The Anchor Bible Dictionary describes Diotrephes: The name “Diotrephes” means “nourished by Zeus” and occurs in *The New Testament* only in this one passage.

What is obvious from the context is that Diotrephes, indeed, had the power in **the church** to put anyone out who did not follow Him

(The Missionaries from The Jerusalem Church). It seems clear when Diotrefes rejected those sent from **the mother church**, he also rejected *The Gospel*. Satan could bring his own servants into **the true church** when you observe where Paul's mission field to The Gentiles originated. Paul's mission fields were The Synagogues and The Gentiles. Those attending The Synagogues were called "God-fearers." They had looked to The One True God of Israel but had not received circumcision.

These new Christians had now accepted Jesus, as The Messiah. The mission for Jews and Gentiles were to go out and make Disciples. It appears **the unconverted Gentiles** had **never** received the same instruction as The Gentiles who attended The Synagogues. Without the full instruction from *The Hebrew Scriptures* – the only *Bible* Jesus and The Apostles had, it was natural for "*The Torah-illiterate*" Gentiles to view many doctrines and instruction mainly from their own cultural Greek background.

So, it was inevitable these Gentiles incorporated into their background of Greek culture, along with paganism into *The Gospel* of God delivered by Jesus and The Apostles. These Gentiles interpreted all they were taught from The Greek's worldview and mindset. Without having *The Torah* teachings from a Hebraic view they began to pervert *The Gospel* in ways unimaginable by Paul and those teaching *The True Gospel*. *The Torah* or The Written Law was a **shadow** or a type of God's and Christ's **true kingdom**. *The Torah* reveals The True Messiah.

This was an opening for Satan to bring both **truth** and **error** into **the churches** being established and deceiving The Gentiles as he had deceived Eve in The Garden of Eden. The Gentiles who came later were brought into **the church** by those who originally had been trained in Hebraic views, decided on their own to **include**

many pagan ideas and incorporate them into The True Church of God. Remember God never hampers anyone's decision of **choice**. Disagreements between those who understood *The True Gospel* with these **false apostles** with Greek pagan baggage was bound to eventually split **the true churches**. It was the mixture of good and evil, which set the course, and in time led to the mixing of "**church**" and "**state**" in The Holy Roman Empire. This was truly what God warned Adam and Eve about The Tree of **Good** and **Evil** forever mixing **the truth** of *The Gospel* with falsehood.

But there is more – much more. In *The New Testament*, the servants of Satan were indeed these new Gentiles attempting to further establish the false apostles. When you read *III John* by The Elder, there is little doubt that Diotrephes is teaching a different gospel – a gospel of Zeus. If *The Fourth Gospel* was written after the martyrdom of James, The Lord's brother and before the destruction of **the second temple**, it is likely **the three letters** were written before **the temple's** desolation. Can it be proved **historically** and **biblically** that *The Fourth Gospel* and the **three letters** were written not long after 62 A.D.?

CHAPTER 5

THE BELOVED DISCIPLE

There are several *Scriptures* in *The Fourth Gospel*, which implies it is quite likely The Beloved Disciple is James, the brother of Jesus, the second born to Joseph and Mary. When you read *The Fourth Gospel* in the Jewish historical context, Jesus gave the care of His mother to the second born when He was about to die on the cross.

When Jesus was upon the cross, He saw His mother and The Disciple standing by (whom He loved) and said to His mother, “**Woman, behold your son.**” [Then He said to The Disciple in John 19:26-27] “**Behold your mother.**”

When there is a death of the father in the family, the responsibility falls to the firstborn son. With the death of the firstborn the responsibility passes to the second born and James, The Just, was the second born. In the Jewish culture and society, the Jewish family ties were very strong and the likelihood of Jesus passing the care of His mother to a Disciple other than James, His brother, would not make sense.

James, the brother of Jesus, was **the overseer** of the movement Jesus had begun. He was the first named by The Apostle Paul along with Peter and John as the pillars in **the mother church** in Jerusalem (Galatians 2:9). There would be no reason for Jesus to pass the responsibility of their mother to another when James, a Disciple and the second born son, was given the earthly care of The

Jerusalem Church and its outreach. Jesus and His brother, James, were the only ones sent to preach The Gospel to Israel. Paul was The Apostle, out of season, sent to preach to The Gentiles.

Crisis In The Church

Why would the author of *The Fourth Gospel* not clearly name “James, called The Just”, as The Beloved Disciple, which would then leave no question as to the identity of The Disciple whom Jesus loved? The answer is found in John 21:21-23. A crisis was developing in **the church**. It was rumored The Disciple whom Jesus loved would remain until The Return of Jesus.

The author of *The Fourth Gospel* had to correct a misunderstanding. The believers in The Nazarene Movement thought Jesus had said “The Beloved Disciple would remain until He actually returned.” This misunderstanding had to be cleared up. Examine carefully the full context. **“²¹So the saying circulated among the brothers and sisters that this disciple was not going to die. ²²But Jesus did not say to him [Peter] that he was not going to die, ²³but rather if I want him to live until I come back what concern is that of yours?”** (John 21:21-23).

The crisis would not have occurred as long as The Beloved Disciple was living. The crisis was created when The Beloved Disciple died. James, the second born son of Mary and Joseph, was martyred in 62 A.D. by The Sanhedrin Court.

To correct the misunderstanding of the crisis, realize that *The Fourth Gospel* could not have been written later than just after the martyrdom of James, The Lord’s brother. James was martyred at The Passover in the spring of 62 A.D., and therefore, shortly after *The Fourth Gospel* was written. The same author of *The Fourth*

Gospel likely wrote *The Three Letters – I, II, III John*. The literary style is the same.

The Book of Revelation identifies John in Revelation 1:1-2. “**1The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he signified it by his angel unto his servant John: Who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw.**”

Is there a connection to the **mystery of iniquity** that was invading The Thessalonians’ Church and **the churches** in Corinth, which led in the direction of what, later, became The Holy Roman Empire? The road to The Holy Roman Empire is in II Corinthians 10 and 11, as well as the break and separation from The Jerusalem Church teachings in III John. In The Letter to The Seven Churches in Asia Minor you find false apostles, claiming they are teaching the same *Gospel* which was given from The Jerusalem Church in Judea.

With the witness of Paul and the witness of The Elder in *III John*, **an apostasy** was creeping slowly into **the churches**. It should not be surprising to find a third witness in *The New Testament* texts. You will find the third witness in *The Book of Revelation* (The Apostle John may have been the author).

Letter To The Seven Churches In Asia Minor

Out of The Seven Churches, The Church of Philadelphia receives the highest mark of approval. Notice the first instructions given to The Church in Philadelphia in Revelation 3:9: “**I am going to make those people from the synagogue of Satan – who say they are Jews [Judeans] yet are not, but are lying – look, I will make**

them come and bow down at your feet and acknowledge that I have loved you.”

It is important to note that Jesus says **those who say they are Jews** [or Judeans as the Greek can be translated either way] **YET ARE NOT.**

To The Church in Ephesus in Revelation 2:2: **“I know your works as well as your labor and steadfast endurance, that you cannot stand evil. You have put to the test those who refer to themselves as apostles [but are not] and have discovered they are false.”**

The Church in Ephesus is complimented on the one hand, but on the other hand, is told they **“lost their first love.”** They are admonished to return to their first love especially when they found the so-claimed apostles **were false.**

The Church in Smyrna has the second highest marks of approval. **“I know your works, and tribulation and poverty, [but you are rich] and I know the blasphemy of them, which say they are Jews and are not, but are of the synagogue of Satan”** (Revelation 2:9).

The Greek word for “Jews” can also be translated “Judeans,” which is used in a geographical sense to identify “The Jews in The Land of Judah” when The Jews were scattered into the other nations. When you place the geographical term Judeans in the Verse 9 context, it must be questioned when *New Testament* scholars claim The Synagogue of Satan are the same as The Jewish Synagogues.

While they claim they are Judeans or Jews teaching *The Gospel*

from The Jerusalem Apostles, in Judea, they are **not**; they are of **the synagogue of Satan**. The same castigation against those who say they are Judeans but are not, but are of the **synagogue of Satan**. Jesus uses the same definition in The Philadelphia Church (Revelation 3:9).

Although The Seven Churches of Asia Minor had problems which needed to be corrected, **the churches** that had broken away from The Jerusalem teachings, had gone their own way and were of the **synagogue of Satan**. *Expositors Bible Commentary*, Volume 12. Page 438, v. 10, synagogue of Satan reads: “*The ‘Synagogue of Satan’ refers then, to certain Jews in ancient Smyrna who, motivated by Satan, slandering the church there. The term should never be used indiscriminately applied to all Jewish synagogues.*”

Jesus Christ dictated The Letter to The Seven Churches to John. No intention is meant to discredit this excellent scholar who in most cases supplies valuable historical information. But in this case “**his**” comments require scrutiny. Surely Jesus, who was born a Jew, grew up in The Jewish culture of synagogue teachings and certainly knew the difference between a Jew and a Gentile.

Jesus says those claiming to be Jews, **ARE NOT JEWS**. The Greek word for “**Jews**” can also be translated “**Judeans**” which would then mean “The Synagogue of Satan are claiming to be teaching the same *Gospel* as The Judean Church.” How could any dedicated scholar, in all sincerity, say these were “**certain**” Jews?

Although it is not always realized how these **scriptures** are read, it all depends on what presumptions you bring to the text. More often than not, you will find carry-overs from The Greek and Latin

Church Fathers who were anti-Jewish or anti-Judaism.

In recent history, scholars writing about The Hitler Holocaust brought shame to The Christian Church. It may have put away the anti-Jewish rhetoric, but still unknowingly pointed fingers at The Jews. They continue perverting *The Gospel* of The Gentiles. It is The Gentile-**illiterate** in the Hebraic **worldview**, bringing The Greek **worldview** with them into **the church**. As early as 49-50 A.D., **the mystery of iniquity** had begun to take root in The Thessalonica Church.

Are those of **the synagogue of Satan**, his servants (II Corinthians 11), who appear to be **the super apostles**, teaching The Day of The Lord had already come in The Thessalonica Church? Did they receive revelation from **the wrong spirit** (from Satan) **that The Day of The Lord had already come**? These are questions you should consider very carefully.

You should explore *The Letter* to The Sardis and Laodicea Churches. In each letter, there is little commendation; and instead, teaching repentance and admonition. Direct your attention to **the churches** in Pergamos and Thyatira. *The Book of Revelation*, given to The Apostle John, was when he was on The Isle of Patmos. These revelations came before the destruction of **the second temple**, which occurred in 70 A.D.

The Letter to The Church in Pergamos is the location where Satan's throne resides (Revelation 2:13). Jesus had many things against The Church in Pergamos.

- 1 Some people are following The Teachings of Balaam, which, puts a stumbling block before The People of Israel so they would eat food sacrificed to idols and

commit sexual immorality (Revelation 2:14).

- 2 Some of you, today, follow the same teachings of The Nicolaitans. The Nicolaitans had mixed their paganism into *The True Gospel* as taught by Jesus and The Apostles (Revelation 2:15).

The Church of Thyatira was allowing a prophetess in **the spirit** of Jezebel to teach and secretly lead away the servants of Jesus to commit fornication. The call for “**repentance**” speaks loudly when you open your heart and mind to God’s “**word.**”

Many **scholars** recognize that paganism was recast by The Holy Roman Empire and those same **symbolisms** were applied to their form of Christianity. The City of Pergamos was **the seat of Satan** and Thyatira was the nearest church to Pergamos, which explains why evil was more prevalent in these two churches than any of the others.

Is it possible that Satan moved **his seat and throne** from Pergamos to The Holy Roman Empire when it was established by The Emperor Constantine? It was Constantine who established The Holy Roman Empire, by combining “**church**” and “**state.**” The Fourth Beast of Daniel 2 literally took over “**the church.**”

The Kingdom of God that would literally be established upon earth, as spoken by The Prophets in *The Hebrew Scriptures*, **was changed to The Holy Roman Empire as The Kingdom of God.** The Kingdom of God established on the earth was supposed to be The Roman Empire and they promised their reward would be a place in **heaven.** Satan had been cast out of heaven, the very place he wished to return and place his throne next to God. Read *God’s Puzzle Solved* – Chapter 12. “The falling away from the

true gospel Paul predicted in *II Thessalonians* may be the beginning of a different gospel which finally became the established Orthodox in The Holy Roman Empire – when Jesus, The Son of God, became officially Jesus, **God The Son**, in 325 A.D., a date of considerable significance – then it spread to the whole world. It became Constantinian Christianity rather than **biblical truth**.”

Once The Orthodox view was established, it was followed by the efforts of The Roman Empire **to crush all other competing beliefs**, either A FACSIMILE OF PAGANISM OR A FACSIMILE OF THE TRUTH. The sword and power of The Roman Empire under The Emperor Constantine stamped out and defeated the other competing interpretations of *The New Testament* Writings. A date of significance – 325 A.D., the spread of Constantine dogmatism was established.

The Gentile Christianity accepted by Constantine was a mixture of truth and error. Could Satan have used the same deception to deceive Eve and also, to deceive The Greek – Constantine along with The Bishops he had gathered to his side? In any case you should now take up the subject of The Holy Roman Empire. Is it possible to observe Constantine in the role of **a false prophet**?

Constantine’s opposing visions and dreams were completely contradictory to what Jesus taught. It was **not total error** – but it was the mixture of good and evil that was so dangerous. This was The Tree of **Good** and **Evil** all over again!

Through paganism, they made Jesus another “**god**” and it became an essential doctrine in Orthodoxy. A **false Christ** which was created in sculptures and paintings began to spread to the four corners of the earth. It was fashionable by Roman and Greek artists to create busts and depictions of heroes who were deified. This

is a valid explanation as to why it was so easy to break **the commandment** against making images.

Images were so prominent in that day that it was a simple step to make images of the most important entity of all – God, The Son, which included Mary, **The Mother of Jesus**, as a title she was given. This started the idea of praying through Mary along with many other saints. They have been given some sort of immortal sainthood, crediting them with miracles and believing they can answer prayers. These types of false miracles were akin to calling up the dead, a pagan custom known throughout the world for thousands of years. They completely ignore what Christ said on how you should pray, **“Our Father who art in Heaven.”** Not anyone else. Not any made up **mini-gods** or to anyone else.

CHAPTER 6

THE FOURTH BEAST OF DANIEL FRAGMENTS

The unity of the historical Roman Empire began to split The East from The West. The Emperor Constantine named his capital city Constantinople. Known today as Istanbul, Turkey, he named the capital after himself. The Roman Empire, at this time, was in complete disarray. In biblical terms the fragmentation was as a deadly wound to its unity. The old religions were losing their appeal and through an image in the sky and subsequent dreams, a new religion began taking shape. It was a state religion based upon some good [Christ] and a great deal of evil [paganism].

The Emperor in The East saw an image of a **cross** in the sky, with the Latin inscription, “use this and conquer.” From The Emperor Constantine there is “the healing of the deadly wound” and the final descent into darkness. The **falling away** from *The True Gospel* (God and Jesus, The Christ) became twisted and perverted with the inclusion of paganism. In 325 A.D., as the **false prophet** and The Emperor, Constantine, opened the door to perpetrating **the image** to be Jesus. From there it began to be spread to the four corners of the earth.

While the majority of Christians are expectantly waiting a future time when the image of the beast shows itself, they fail to realize **the beast is already here**. The surprising fact is that it has been

prominently displayed in public places for a very long time. The image is on display in believer's homes – over the mantle and around women's necks. The identity of this image will not only shock the masses – but will enrage the majority – because they just will **not believe** that an item that has been used so freely and seen so often as **holy** – is in fact, this dreaded image of Satan, who can appear as an angel of light, complete with long hair, but representing Zeus.

There has been a historical **falling away** from The True Gospel; a process that did not occur **all at once** and the reasons are manifold. The principle of learning from **history** is so the same mistakes will not be repeated. But humanity has yet to learn this lesson.

Great False Image

Could a great visionary phenomena of a projected image be seen in **the end of days**, which suggests it will be none other than Satan? This image will be believed by many to be **The Return of The True Christ**. “**Another Jesus...for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light...**” II Corinthians 11:4, 14).

Angels, themselves, have appeared in the form of a man. Despite how Satan might appear on the outside, his character underneath is that of a serpent – just as in The Garden of Eden. An appearance of a serpent could never have deceived Eve. The serpent is a description of the fallen nature of **the angel of light**. The Apostle Paul told you Satan **can** appear as **an angel of light**. So, it is only a small step to say an angel can appear as a man.

In the book *God's Puzzle Solved*, read Chapter 12 entitled ‘*Satan – God's Helper*’ (pages 340-341), for the true appearance of Satan.

Satan had used half-truths and half-lies which made Eve fall for the deception. Satan is not above using “**the very word**” of God and twisting the truth with a little deception for his own purpose. The following night Constantine had a dream in which he thought Jesus appeared and gave him **the sign of the cross** and He was told “to pick up the sword, to go and conquer.”

The Image Of The Cross In The Sky

The story is told that The Emperor Constantine and his soldiers saw a flaming cross in the sky, accompanied by the words “*Touto nika*” which is interpreted: “By this conquer.”

The Apostle Peter drew a sword and cut off the ear of **the servant** of The High Priest (Matthew 26:50-51). He was told by Jesus to: “...**Put up the sword...**[Jesus then said to Peter]...**for all who draw the sword will die by the sword...**”

There is a stark contrast between the teachings of Jesus and teachings of The Emperor Constantine. Which one had the truth? Many false prophets would come who claimed to have the teachings of Jesus. Even at the end, some will say Jesus has been spotted over here or over there or in various other places (Matthew 24:23).

Eventually, Jesus said, that **the false Christ** masquerading as The True Christ would even be seen in the secret chambers (Matthew 24:26). When you proceed to plumb the depths of the prophetic words in Revelation 13 about the beast and the image of the beast, an interpretation will be offered how this **false image of Jesus** has been spread to the four corners of the earth. But for now, you need to understand how this **Unholy** Nicene Council came to be.

When did this darkness begin to descend over the so-called Greek

church fathers? There are hints of the encroaching darkness when **the church historian**, Eusebius, describes letters from the early Gentile patriarchs – such as Hegesippus, Irenaeus and Clement. Of course, Eusebius, not being a Disciple of *The True Gospel*, saw these patriarchs as **heroes of the faith**. You must discern the difference between **the faith of The Greek Patriarchs** and **the faith of Jesus and His first-century Disciples**. Do not assume that both forms of **faith** were the same.

Eusebius was **the first church historian** who recorded the events, of the developing Gentile Christianity after the death of all of The Apostles. The earliest patriarchs such as those previously named began to develop beliefs almost opposite to *The New Testament* “**writings**.” The closer you come to the last quarter of the second century the further away The Greek **church fathers** moved from The One True God of Israel (Deuteronomy 6:4). The Hebrew opinion of The Jewish Apostles, which underlies the Greek language of *The New Testament*, was REPLACED with Greek “**philosophical**” thinking. The Apostles continued the mission by taking The Gospel to the nations after Jesus ascended to heaven. They taught from *The Greek Bible*, which was translated from the Hebrew. The danger in any translation from one language to another is the loss of the cultural misunderstanding of the words of the original language.

Without the Hebraic **foundation** underlying the Greek language, the philosophy of The Greeks inevitably lead to false presumptions. The culture of **the many gods**, is polytheism, so it is not that difficult to reduce **the many gods** to two or three gods disguised as The One True God.

CHAPTER 7

ONE VOICE SPEAKS OUT

A prominent scholar and writer, James A. Sanders, is Professor Emeritus of Biblical Studies. In his book, *The Bible at Qumran*, his chapter entitled ‘*Canon as Dialogue*’ page 24, has the following comment:

“...Whereas the Trinitarian formula was designed to be a safeguard against polytheizing with its emphasis on The True God, it has consciously or unconsciously been understood with a polytheizing hermeneutic...” (The art or science of the interpretation of literature).

Professor Sanders has stated clearly that it is impossible to explain the notion about the triune God on a basis of logic without using terms that are polytheistic in nature. Sanders continues: “It ought to have prevented what gradually came to be the way the churches read the second Testament, namely, by a Christocentric hermeneutic. Yet, it did not, in and of itself, because Christians began to fail to heed the first three commandments, which prohibit polytheism, idolatry and co-opting God’s name for one point of view (whether in court or life).”

Professor Sanders has for decades been a leading proponent of honest dialogue with an open mind to understand the differences in views between Jewish and Christian scholars. From the dialogue between both sides on many issues, some **progress** has been

made. Obviously there is, yet, a long way to go toward a full restoration of **the original gospel**. Take careful note of what The First Three Commandments to which the Christian scholar Sanders refers:

1st Commandment: You shall have no other Gods before me.

2nd Commandment: You shall not make unto you any graven image or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

3rd Commandment: You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.

Even if the believing masses from 325 A.D., to this very day, claim Christian icons and images do not break The Three Commandments – their thinking must be questioned. Ask yourself the following question: “Can you imagine God granting permission to The Children of Israel to keep the golden calf, as long as they did not bow down to worship it?”

Deception occurs when you believe a lie or a partial lie, which you think to be **the truth**. Eve believed a lie which was presented to her by **the evil one**. In like manner, The Gentile Church believed the lie that was instigated by **the evil one** in that day. The great lie (apostasy) was presented as **the truth**. You and every Christian must prove this to be so, through much prayer and studying *The Scriptures*.

You will have no excuse proving one way or the other if these **three commandments** are being broken today. James makes this

most clear in James 2:10. “**For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.**”

All The Ten Commandments form **one indivisible unit**. To break one or remove one, divides The Ten, which God gave as indivisible. This is the point James is making. If there are icons or images of artist’s conceptions about **how** Jesus was presumed to have appeared in human form, then **the first three commandments** of God are being broken. Christianity goes to extremes reproducing **images** of their **little gods** while fooling themselves into believing they worship **The One True God**. At face value alone, it stands to reason this is the breaking of **the commandments**.

In general, people do not check what they have not been taught. But, if you now understand – and go on to **prove all things** – you come to know this truth – you will, then be held **accountable**. This is a serious matter. “**Prove all things and hold fast to that which is good**” (1 Thessalonians 5:21).

How Did The Apostasy Occur?

In order to understand how **the apostasy** occurred, you can examine the confessions made by an early church father, Saint Augustine. **The apostasy** occurred as the result of The Law – **The Torah**, Prophets and “**writings**” being allegorized by the Greek and Latin **church fathers**. *The Old Testament* should have continued as the background for interpreting *The New Testament* “**writings**.”

Evidence for this claim is provided by *The New Testament* itself in Luke 24:44-45. “⁴⁴**All things must be fulfilled, which were written in the Law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.** ⁴⁵**Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures.**”

The New Testament clearly defines these three great overall categories of *The Old Testament* and calls them **The Scriptures**. This attitude and practice should have continued as a basis for all *Bible* doctrine. Instead they were replaced by elements of Greek philosophy. Consequently, it became the underlying basis for the emerging apostasy after Jesus, The Christ ascended to be with His Father.

All of the proofs given by The Apostles that proclaimed Jesus as The Messiah – came from *The Old Testament*. It was the only *Testament* in existence at that time. *The Old Testament* was called **The Scriptures** as well as *The Holy Scriptures* (II Timothy 3:15). How could something that was “...**Holy**...” change to eventually becoming “unholy?” What happened is this body of knowledge given by God, Himself, was determined to be **lesser** when compared to the philosophical knowledge that was emerging from The Greek and Roman Empires. Then, The Holy Roman Empire through Constantine became the sole interpreter of Christianity – putting aside *The Holy Scriptures*.

Without *The New Testament* “writings,” Christian believers, down through the ages, would have become hopelessly lost. So, a record had to be created in order to demonstrate that Jesus fulfilled those things spoken about Him in The Law and The Prophets. In short, *The New Testament* “**writings**” can only be understood from the background of *The Old Testament*. This is the reason *The New Testament* became **scripture**. Since *The Old Testament* was rejected – *The New Testament* became the only **scripture** revealing The Messiah.

True believers could never have received their understanding from Athens, Rome or Egypt. That is the underlying lesson you must focus upon. Out of Jerusalem, **the truth** shall come forth from Zion.

Bad Choices

When The Greek and Latin **church fathers** looked to the pagan philosophers, they were not looking to *The Hebrew Scriptures – The Holy Scriptures* as a foundation for understanding *The New Testament*, “**The foundation the builders have rejected**” (Matthew 21:42).

Only through much prayer and study will you begin to understand **the truth**. By proving if **these things** are so, as The Bereans did, will you know God’s “**truth**.” Be aware of what James warned, “...**Therefore to him that knows to do good, and does it not, to him it is sin**” (James 4:17).

Accountability is based upon adequate **knowledge**. If you examine the evidence – and then prove the statements made – your accountability is called for at that time – not before. Jesus made that quite clear when he said in John 9:41, “...**If ye were blind, you should have no sin: but now you say, ‘We see’ therefore your sin remains.**”

This information is presented not to scare you – only to set forth the evidence from **the biblical evidence** and the consequences that result. In conscience and allegiance to God and to The Lord Jesus Christ, **you must prove this information**. “**It is for you to prove these things and hold fast to what is good and true**” (I Thessalonians 5:21).

The way of Greek and Latin “so-called” **church fathers** may have seemed right in their own eyes, but they were meddling with **the truth**. Do not forget that these men were viewing the overall situation at that time through the lens of Greek philosophy – and not through the lens of *The Hebrew Scriptures – The Law, Prophets*

and “**writings.**”

Who has ever considered that the notorious **falling away** mentioned in II Thessalonians 2:3 is a matter of historical fulfillment? Nearly everyone makes a basic assumption. They are looking to the future for the fulfillment of this famous prophecy. Consequently, the best means to begin this road to discovery – is by presenting you with a searching question. That question reveals how this story should be told. “Do you currently possess enough historical information that allows you to understand how The Greek and Latin **church father** interpreted *The New Testament writings*?”

Amazingly, you can possess this vital information. It has existed in the ancient records – but no one seems to have paid any attention to it. This is incredible to behold. History tells about one specific **church father** who has been accorded the highest reputation of all. Prominent scholars have defined him as the **greatest theologian after The Apostle Paul**. Just think of that designation. Who could this man be?

This famous man is Saint Augustine. His full name is Saint Augustine of Hippo (born Nov 13, 354 and died Aug 28, 430). He is considered to be, “...the dominant personality of The Western Church of his time, generally recognized as the greatest thinker of Christian antiquity.” Are you surprised? You should take an incisive look at what Augustine recorded during this vital period of **early church history**.

You must do this because Augustine is perceived as an **ultimate authority** in these matters. Augustine believed what he had read in the writings of Plato, which **only** appeared to be the **same concepts** espoused in the prologue of *The Fourth Gospel* in John

1:1-14. The keynote here is to discern that it was through **the teachings of the pagan philosophers** that the prologue of *The Fourth Gospel* was interpreted.

What would have been the worst case scenario of blasphemy to Jesus and The Disciples became a natural conclusion when **the writings of the Greek pagan philosophers** became the criteria for discerning the prologue of John 1:1-14. Since these were the proof texts for those **church fathers**, a restoration is in order.

The prologue of John should at once be placed back into The Hebrew **context** of the true meaning that was originally placed by The Jewish Disciple who wrote it down for all to see. To begin this analysis, you must examine the primary confession which is of major significance uttered by Augustine. This confession is quoted in the scholarly work compiled by James G.D. Dunn. “He fused the religion of The *New Testament* with the Platonic tradition of Greek philosophy...” (*Encyclopedia Britannica*, Vol. I, p. 650 [15th Ed.]). In his authoritative book, *Christology in The Making*, the following is the statement made by Augustine: “...In them (some of the books of Platonists) I read not, of course, word for word, though the sense was the same and it was supported by all kinds of different arguments – that “at the beginning of time “The Word” already was; and God had “The Word” abiding in Him, and “The Word” was God. And the light shines in darkness, a darkness which was not able to master it. I read too that the soul of man, although it “bears witness of the light, is not the light.” But “The Word,” who is Himself, God, “is the true light which enlightens every soul born into the world. He, through whom the world was made, was in the world, and the world treated him as a stranger.”

But I did not find it written in those books that “He came to His

own, and they who were His own gave Him no welcome. But all those that did welcome Him He empowered to become **the children** of God, all who believe in His name.” In the same books I also read of The Word, God, that His “birth came not from human stock, not from nature’s will of man’s, but from God.” But I did not read in them that “The Word” was made flesh and came to dwell among us...” “*Confessions*” V.11.9 (following the translation by R. S. Pine-Coffin in *Penguin Classics* 1961) p. 339.2.

You can easily perceive the underlying significance in the shocking quotation. Obviously, *The Book of John* was not used to interpret Plato, but rather, Plato was being used to interpret John’s *Gospel*. Can you fathom this? Were you aware that this basis for interpretation was being propounded by **the false early church fathers**? It should be shocking to everyone.

Can you begin to realize what Augustine has implied here by his confession? He is implying that the **pagan polytheistic philosophers** had the truth about The One True God. Augustine observed and reported that the pagan Platonists possessed “**their truth.**” These statements recorded from Augustine should trouble any serious Christian seeking **the truth**. In the introduction, it was stated: When darkness descended (**on the truth**) it led to vast changes in the believing community.

When was Jesus ever a student of pagan Greek philosophy? Honestly, how would you answer this question? Frankly, this very idea is preposterous.

CHAPTER 8

JESUS WAS NO STUDENT OF PLATONISM

It is almost unbelievable that *The New Testament* scholars can credit Augustine with being the greatest theologian after Paul. Should you follow the teaching of Jesus in *The Gospels* – or look to the philosophers of Greece? Where did the teaching of Jesus actually originate? How that question is answered – may demonstrate the degree you have for “the truth” of God. For those Greek and Latin “church fathers” to find their truth in pagan philosophers is truly absurd and almost laughable, if it were not for the seriousness of it for all – especially for Christians who are looking for “the truth.”

You should consider this is an indication of accurately defining the word “**apostasy**” – “**falling away**” in **II Thessalonians 2:3**. Now, how did all this happen? When did this “falling away” into apostasy begin? Hang on to your hat. The story begins with The Ministry of Jesus and the original source of His teachings.

Simply stated, Augustine claimed, “...**The truth was to be found in the teaching of pagan Greek philosophers.**”

But most important of all – and here is the crux – it is from these pagan philosophers all the teachings of the early Greek **church**

fathers were derived. Furthermore, it was from these philosophers that *The New Testament* “**writings**” were interpreted. **That alone should shock you.** But there is more – much more.

Jesus had a message. He called it “*The Gospel* or good news of The Kingdom of God.” Many clear *New Testament* texts support this. Where did Jesus obtain the information He began to preach and teach after being baptized by John – and anointed for His historical ministry? It came from God (John 7:16). It came from *The Scriptures* (John 5:38-39). Jesus said to His Disciples, “**Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill**” (Matthew 5:17).

The meaning is obvious. Jesus stated that He came to **correctly** fulfill The Law and The Prophets in perfect and Holy **righteousness**. Jesus was a Jew from Galilee and certainly not a Greek from Athens. There was not a single thought in His mind about the teaching material that had been produced by the pagan Greek philosophers. It would have been totally preposterous. Jesus, The Christ was a Holy Man sent by God. He was born and reared in The Land of Israel.

How could things have gotten so totally mixed up? Yet no one seems to **see or fully understand**. It is because so much time has elapsed, that everyone just assumes and just accepts what has been offered all these centuries on the plate of the traditional teaching – **thinking it is probably “right” and probably “good.”** So, it is important for you to realize that Saint Augustine reveals the prevalent method, in his day, for interpreting *The New Testament*.

Understand this is **not** what Jesus preached. Christ’s teachings concerned fulfilling *The Sacred Scriptures*. These are the texts that came to be erroneously labeled as *The Old Testament*. In

most minds today, the notion is that “**The New**” has totally replaced “**The Old.**” No “**true**” Christian would or could acknowledge this after they take the time to check. **Jesus did not teach Greek philosophy.**

The misunderstanding is the belief, that *The Old Testament* or *Old Covenant* meant *The Scriptures*. *The Old Testament* or *Old Covenant* **only** included The Covenant made with Israel based upon The Letter of The Law. *The Scriptures* included *The Torah*, The Prophets and *Psalms*, as Jesus said. *The Old Covenant* and *Old Testament* were only a small part of *the scriptures*. For further research read the book *God's Work*.

This detour from reality was gradual, but it developed into a great deception. The descent into darkness was subtle and well calculated. A misreading of *The Genesis Creation* story began by interpreting the **Greek term “LOGOS” as understood by the Greek Platonist as** “an entirely separate being from the **ONE** God” rather than as “The Word from The **One** God.” If “**the word**” (logos) is God’s very “**word**” then, **The One God is The Word.**

The Genesis Creation Story

The Genesis creation story is the key to understanding the prologue to *The Gospel of John*. This is because of the similarity of theme, content and style. But there is much more. It is, also, because of the remarkable similarity in the first words of both *Genesis* and John’s *Gospel*.

When a Jewish writer confesses Jesus as The Messiah, it is striking that He begins His *Gospel* with the expression, “**In the beginning...**” (John 1:1). This is a clear indication of a comparison being made with the first words in *The Book of Genesis*, which

are: **“In the beginning...”** (Genesis 1:1).

The intent seems to be that the words “In the beginning...” led to the confession of Jesus as The Messiah. Genesis 1:6, **“In the beginning it is written...God said...”**

Seven times you read in *The Book of Genesis*, **“...and God said...”** In those seven times **“God said, all things on earth were created.”** These things were created by God’s **“word.”** Not one thing was created that God, Himself, did not literally **“speak”** into **“creation.”** If you allow this **creation story** to be your background, then you can read the prologue as God Almighty states it should be read. **“In the beginning was The Word...”** (John 1:1)

There is a marvelous light at the end of the tunnel. By comparing the teaching of Jesus and His Disciples with the teaching of the so-called Greek and Latin **church fathers**, it will be demonstrated by **documented evidence** that the slide into apostasy – was like unto the proverbial Tree of The Knowledge of Good and Evil. This is the time to think outside the confines of the **boxed-in teachings** that have pervaded the professing Christian **churches** for nearly 1700 years. Whose **“word”** was spoken seven times in the beginning that brought **“all things”** into created existence? Of course, it was God’s **“word.”** This is because of the words, **“...God said...”** (i.e., The Word). So the utterance was the same as The Word (of God). **“...and The Word was with The God, and God was The Word...”** (John 1:1).

Anyone who has the proper research tools can check the original Greek for the phrase cited above – and determine whether that quotation is fact. Yet all translations **reverse the Greek** to read, **“...the Word was God.”** Why would they do this? It is based upon a presupposition. There is a motive – a literal smoking

gun. Why would these Trinitarian translators reverse the original Greek? Could it be that they needed to make their “**polytheistic**” case that God’s “**word**” was “**a second being** – as though God had no “word” of His own?

It is here you must understand the definite “articles” in the John 1:1 prologue. The definite article identifies in the case of John 1:1 that “**The Word**” was that of “**The God.**” The article “**the**” identifies that it is God as the main subject in Verse 1. The article in “**the**” word is specific in that it is “**The**” Word of “**The**” God. In other words, **The God is the ruling subject; therefore The “word” is The Word of The God.**

Once The Trinitarian Doctrine was adopted in Gentile Christianity, the translators reversed the original Greek, which reads God was **The Word**. Because in the last expression in John 1:1, it reads God (without the article) “**The**” while “**the word**” retains the article “**The**” scholars reverse the original Greek, from **God was The Word – to The Word was God.**

Just as in Genesis 1:1, it is The Word of God and the same applies when you read John 1:1. The main subject is The God, and therefore, God is “The Word” is **the correct translation** just as the original Greek language has it. **The truth** is that it was The Word of The One True God. If you wish to know whose “**word**” it was in the beginning, then **God was The Word**. Isn’t that utterly simple and logical? In the beginning, God was The Word and by His Word He spoke all things into existence. God’s Word was with God “in the beginning.” The Word was in God and emanated from within God. “**...In God’s Word was life and the life was the light of men. And the light of God shines in the darkness and the darkness could not master the light...**” (John 1:4).

CHAPTER 9

WHEN GOD'S WORD CAME IN THE FLESH

John 1:1-5 is all about God, who in the beginning created all things that were created by “His Word.” Then in John 1:5-9, God sends John, The Baptist to bear witness of what is coming into the world. The correct understanding from John 1:10-14, concerns what will happen in the world when, at age 30, Jesus was baptized and anointed for “His historical ministry.” This is the time The Disciples beheld His Glory (John 1:14).

When did The Disciples behold The Glory of Jesus, The Anointed One? Of course, it was after He was baptized and anointed at the age of 30, a time of maturity. At the age of 30, Jesus had grown in The Grace and Knowledge of **The Word** of God so that God's Word had become Him “**in the flesh.**” The first time since the beginning of creation, all of The Word of God, in The Law (*Torah*), Prophets and “**writings**” were fulfilled perfectly by Jesus, The Son of David in the flesh, stated by Paul, “...**Jesus...was made of the seed of David according to the flesh...**” (Romans 1:3).

Jesus told His Disciples in Matthew 5:17, He came to fulfill The Word of God. From a baby to age 12 and then on into maturity at His baptism, Jesus had grown into **the perfect** visible image of **the righteousness** and Holiness of The Invisible God. God's Holy “Word” came into the world when He began His ministry,

at the age of 30, when God's Word was in the flesh – the flesh of Jesus Christ, The Anointed One.

Notice how simple everything becomes when you are permitted to let *Scripture* be interpreted from The Word of God, *The Torah*, The Prophets and all “**the writings**.” Jesus was The Word of God in the complete fulfillment of all that The Word of God declared. He was The Word of God personified. At 30 years of age, Jesus became **the perfect** “Holiness” and “**Righteousness**” of everything in God's Word. It is not as Augustine observed from reading the pagan philosophers – but rather it was as The Written Word of God that spoke about Him in The Law and The Prophets.

Plato's Word Vs. God's Word

Comparing God's **Word** with the Platonist's word – the words of the Platonists are trumped and made void. It is a matter of God's Holy Word, against the unholy pagan philosopher's word. In 325 A.D., with sword bearers encircling the bishops, **the pagan** Roman Emperor Constantine declared Jesus is God. Only in The Fourth Century was God's Holy Spirit declared to be **a third God**.

Are you able to put **the truth** in The Word of The One True God and to demonstrate the lie of the “**Gentile**” so-called **church fathers**? It was “**The Word of God**” in Jesus who became the perfect fulfillment when He came into the world to begin **His historical ministry**. The Word, that is The Word of God, was embedded in the flesh of Jesus, The Firstborn Son of God. What did Jesus, Himself, say about God, His Father? “**Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God**” (John 17:3).

But what about Paul? Maybe Jesus was just being modest, not admitting to being a second God. What did The Apostle Paul say?

Notice in 1 Corinthians 8:4, where Paul states that, “...**there is no other God but one...**” There you have it in the mouth of two witnesses. Jesus said it and Paul said it. There is but One True God. Polytheism is rendered null and void.

This is where the rub comes in. Augustine stated that “The Word of God” was **a second God**. Jesus and Paul said there is but **One** True God. Who are you to believe? Are you to believe Jesus and Paul or Augustine and the Greek and Latin so-called **church fathers**? Are you a truth seeker, who **will believe** “The Word of God” over those Greek and Latin **church fathers**?

When you compare The Word of God with the sayings of the Platonists, God will win in every case. In 325 A.D., Constantine, along with over 250 Bishops at The Council of Nicaea, made history. It is reported, at that council, Constantine had instructed his soldiers to draw their swords when the vote was taken. This was clearly intimidation. In this way, he could insure that everyone would vote in the manner that was chosen. At that gathering, they turned *The Gospel* upside down and returned to polytheism. They perverted *The Gospel* beyond repair.

It has remained that way ever since. In other words, they **apostatized** *The Gospel*, so that in 325 A.D., you have the official **falling away**. “**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 Thessalonians 2:3).

In 325 A.D., **the apostasy** was given the authority of The Roman Empire, and it is that date from which there was the great **falling away** from *The Gospel of God* given through Jesus Christ and The Apostles.

When Jesus Became “God”

Jesus only spoke The Word of God and only did what God, His Father, told Him. Notice select excerpts from a book entitled: *When Jesus Became God*, by Richard E. Rubenstein. On the back cover of Rubenstein’s book, it states, “An exciting book! Richard Rubenstein has taken the ancient conflict in Christian history between Arius and Athanasius and given it the brilliance of modern journal coverage.

In the process he enlightens us about the nature and destructiveness, to say nothing of the roots, of those dark places in our contemporary history where far too often religious convictions are expressed in terms of hate, murder, ethnic cleansing and even warfare” (Comments by The Most Reverend John Shelby Spong, Bishop of Newark).

Rubenstein has searched deep into church history to expose the brutality of the wars perpetrated by the followers of Arian and Athanasius. They were bitter enemies. Each of their views caused bloody conflict when the feud was taken from the pulpits into the streets. The sword of The Word of *The Gospel* was argued with metal swords – as the shed blood from both sides demonstrated that something went terribly wrong.

What turned sour was the slide into darkness. This thick darkness covered the light of *The True Gospel* of God through Jesus Christ. In 325 A.D., the slide into darkness can best be described by Paul as “**the apostasy**” – or the **falling away** from **the truth** described in II Thessalonians 2:3.

Do not draw a final conclusion until you study *The Holy Scriptures* – and the evidence proved by historical facts. The Apostles

of God and The Disciples of Jesus, The Messiah must be the criteria from which **the truth** must be derived. *The New Testament*, so named, in correlation with *The Torah*, The Prophets and all the “**writings**” in *The Hebrew Scriptures* are **the truth, the whole truth** and nothing but **the truth**. To these things you must hold fast – lest the darkness imposed by the Greek and Latin **fathers** overcome you, also.

Arius And Athanasius

What was the basis for this argument between Arius and Athanasius? From Arius and his followers was an overall statement that was made famous. “There was a time when Jesus was not.” From Athanasius and his followers came this retort, “There was **never** a time when Jesus was not.”

Between these two confessions, the streets became filled with hate, murder, ethnic cleansing and warfare. The vision of Constantine “to take the cross of Christ and go and conquer” caused the streets to run red with blood. The Gentile Church believed they had replaced **the promises** of God to Israel and The Jews became the enemy with millions upon millions of them being slain for being Christ killers. The love of God, who gave His Only Begotten Son, was turned towards evil and any who did not accept the Constantine **form** of Christianity died by the sword.

The words of Paul fell on deaf ears. Paul stated when the full numbers of The Gentiles are brought in, **all Israel will be “saved”** (Romans 11:26). How could The Gospel of The Kingdom of God, The Message of Jesus, John, The Baptist, The Apostles and Disciples of The Nazarene (Branchites) end up becoming a combination of good and evil? It was as though the deceiver had used Constantine to take of The Tree of The Knowledge of Good and

Evil just as Eve was deceived in The Garden of Eden.

Even The Messianic Jews, who had accepted Jesus as The Messiah, could no longer accept the teaching of The Gentile Church. Some scholars recognize many of the doctrines of pagans found their way into Constantine's "**Christianity.**" It must be remembered, Constantine continued to embrace elements of both paganism along with Christianity. Only when dying was he baptized and became a Christian.

The Doctrine Of Constantine

What occurred from *The Gospel* of God as taught by Jesus and The Apostles – to the doctrines of Constantine in 325 A.D., which appears to be an entirely **different gospel**. Greek and Latin so-called Christian literature developed until it was finally crystallized into what can be termed The Holy Roman Empire. What began as *The Gospel* taught by Jesus and later The Apostles within a Jewish culture and society was so altered as to be accepted in Greek and Latin culture to become the **doctrines** of The Roman Emperor.

The late Professor David Flusser in his monumental book – *Judaism And The Origins Of Christianity* – has a chapter titled – ‘*An Early Jewish-Christian Document In The Tiburtine Sibyl.*’ The interpretation presented should not be taken in all cases as the same as the views of Professor Flusser. The Sibyl has had redactions but even so a Jewish Christian origin is detectable taken up by a Gentile Christian writer.

The Tiburtine Sibyl is a final medieval composition, pointing back to much earlier sources. What is important is the historical parts and the differences detectable from Jewish Christianity

into Gentile Christianity?

As Professor Flusser states on page 364, “**the savior**” in the early “Sibyl” is designated by the capital letter “C” (Constantine); however, in the Greek “Sibyl” “he” goes by the name “Olibos.” The passage about Constantine has also a **parallel** in the Greek Sibyl line 85-88 in the sixth generation, where Constantine bears his full name. It is important you understand the redactor is not replacing Jesus with Constantine; rather the author refers to Constantine as “**the savior**” removing the persecution from The Gentile Christians. What is the most significant point is The Jewish Christian interpretation of Matthew 5:17. The Jewish nuance in *The New Testament* days can be paraphrased as, “**Do not suppose that I have come to misinterpret *The Torah* [Law] or *The Prophets*. I have not come to misinterpret them [which is the same as to abolish] rather I have come to fulfill them.**”

To purport The Emperor Constantine is a “**savior**” of Gentile Christianity is lacking in common sense. Although, Professor Flusser does not state it as such, the reader has no alternative but to be presented with an entirely different gospel. Constantine with The Bishops replaced Jesus, The Son of God with Jesus God, The Son. The Lord’s Day which has nothing to do with a day of the week, was designated as Sunday and Easter replaced Passover. The other festivals of The Jews, followed as customs of The Jerusalem Apostles and Disciples, were expressively to be denounced, for any Jewish believer in Jesus as The Messiah, to be part of The Churches of The Holy Roman Empire.

CHAPTER 10

THE FOURTH KINGDOM OF DANIEL NEVER CEASED TO EXIST

In Daniel 2, it mentions Four Gentile Kingdoms are to arise in succession. The Fourth Kingdom began with Julius Caesar. Although many have attempted to explain a revived Roman Empire, “the biblical evidence” in Daniel is The Fourth Empire never ceases to exist until the stone cut out of the mountain crushes the image upon its feet (Daniel 2:32-34). Although The Fourth Roman Empire makes changes until the stone cut out of the mountain crushes it, The Empire continues to exist.

When The Roman Emperor Constantine embraced The Gentile form of Christianity and developed **The Holy Roman Empire as The Kingdom of God**, just how Holy was it? You will find Satan took over Christianity.

The sword was used on those who would not accept the doctrines and dogma of The Empire. Although The Roman Empire has put on many faces in one form or another it has **never ceased to exist**. The two legs – Rome in Italy – The Second Rome in Constantinople – split off from each other due to disagreement in some religious details.

Although going their separate ways, both The West and The East

still retained the same basic dogmas.

The Doctrine Of The Trinity

The battle over whether or not Jesus was God who came in the flesh became a bloody battle between those in the Arian camp, with those of the Athanasius camp. Which camp had **the truth** or were they both fighting over unscriptural-based dogma? Can a Trinity or “**three separate beings**” be identified with The One True God of *The Hebrew Bible*? Athanasius argued “yes,” even though it could not be logically explained. On the other hand Arian argued that there was a time Jesus was not.

Both Arian and Athanasius departed from *The Hebrew Scriptures*, where God said, besides Him, there is not another God (Isaiah 44-45). When The One God was explained as being in **three beings**, most Jews felt **the trinity doctrine** spelled tri-theism – three gods – and that was polytheism. Easter replaced The Passover; The Seventh Day, Sabbath was replaced with **the day of the sun**, Sunday.

Jews, if they were to be of the household of faith, were required to denounce their Jewish heritage and reject all Jewish customs.

The Roman Empire was being torn apart by the fighting between the followers of Arian and Athanasius. The battle was taken from the pulpit to every household. Each side hated the other and what began as verbal debate, turned to bloodshed by both parties. Constantine called The Bishops to Nicaea **to end the controversy**. Constantine’s concern was for The Roman Empire far more than **church doctrine**. He listened to the debates and finally sided with Athanasius and **forced** all **bishops** to sign a document of **agreement**.

With sword-bearers encircling **the bishops**, along with Eusebius who was more on the side of Arian, they all finally signed. Because of the loose wording in the document, Eusebius felt he could explain the document to **the churches** in The West in a way which would allow the Arian contention, that there was only The One God of Israel. It was not until the great Council of Chalcedon that The Arian **believers** lost out completely, when The Bishops of Athanasius Dogma of The Trinity finally became the orthodoxy of The Roman Empire.

Three Great Cities

Rome had been the premier city of The Mediterranean World, although it did not last. During the time when The City of Rome was rapidly falling into decline, Rubenstein mentions in his book, *When Jesus Became God*, three other cities of The Mediterranean, began ascending in greatness. “...**Alexandria, Antioch, and Constantinople, there were, also, hundreds of other highly developed towns. By comparison the Latin West was an economic and cultured backwater with Rome herself, a city in sad decline**, (although still considered the “first city” for historical reasons, Page 4).”

Alexandria in Egypt was the creation of Alexander, The Great. He laid out the plans in 332 A.D., but never lived to see it constructed. Concerning this magnificent seaport city, Rubenstein states, “... The waterfront city, diverse cultures mixed, clashed, and recombined; feverish commercial activity coexisted with deep spiritual hunger; and worldly, ambitious people became fascinated – even obsessed – by issues of religious faith...”

There were two Greek thinkers, St. Clement and Origin, both greatly influenced the creation of Greek and Latin Christianity.

The development made many twists and turns before events arrived at the point where the proto-Orthodox became the “**Orthodoxy**” of Constantinople. The proto-Orthodox were the ones who won out over all the competing interpretations. It became known as Orthodox Christianity and is still functioning, today, in the modern world.

Two councils were required to bring together the final decree. This was The Nicene Council of 325 A.D. and The Chalcedon Council of 451 A.D. The confession of The Apostles of God who claimed Jesus was “The Son of God” had been turned around to read “God, The Son.” Furthermore, all this was done under the auspices and trappings of **The Sun God**.

The great confession of the Shema, “**Hear O Israel the Lord your God the Lord is one**” (Deuteronomy 6:4), was perverted to a polytheistic hermeneutic as observed from the statement of James A. Sanders.

Paul was accused by the Judaizers of perverting *The Gospel of Jesus Christ*. On that basis, how much more serious was the matter of perverting the confession of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses and the whole house of The Children of Israel? Believe it or not, **no greater apostasy and falling away** from “**the truth**” could there have been – that of denying The One Almighty God. This was done by The Decrees of Nicaea and Chalcedon. It is impossible, by the very nature of things to make “**three separate beings**” into “**one being**.” Two joined together as one, in mind and attitude as a husband and wife, never takes away the basic facts of the laws of nature. The husband is still one husband and the wife – one wife. When you add one husband and one wife, you will always come up with two individuals. The only husband/wife team which was ONE was when Eve came from Adam. All others

are separate individuals and when you add one plus one you **come up** with **two**.

Where Is The Logic?

God created a very logical world. Once the world lost the logic and common sense of things, it had found itself in the sad condition of feeble-mindedness. If things do not make sense then it is “non-sense.” It is foolishness for there to be more than One True God, as Jesus and Paul stated (John 17:3 and 1 Corinthians 8:4). Besides, it is blasphemous against God.

There has to be an urgency for every sincere soul to proceed in proving this evidence. It must be determined whether this is both **biblically based** and **historically correct**. You must examine the many sources quoted and employ common sense with **biblical study**. Your study must combine **God’s Holy Word** with **undeniable history**. At the mature age of 30, Jesus came to John, The Baptist and was anointed for His historical ministry. When The Disciples of Jesus beheld His “**glory**” it was when He came into the world to begin His **appointed “mission.”** For too many years, it has been interpreted that The Recorder of *The Fourth Gospel* was speaking about The Birth of Jesus.

Jesus did not show Himself to the world of The Jews when He was born. When did Jesus show Himself in Galilee, Samaria, Judaea and The Great City of Jerusalem? It was at His baptism and anointing from God. When did His Disciples behold His “**glory**?” The Disciples did not know Jesus until He came into The World of The Jews after He was anointed (John 1:14). How simple it is, when you take time to think about these important facts.

CHAPTER 11

THE BEAST OF REVELATION 13

One of the more intriguing aspects of This Great Apostasy concerns the hidden interconnection with the material recorded in *The Book of Revelation*. It is time to begin to focus upon a mystery that can be solved. What is the relationship of: (1) The Apostasy, (2) The falling away from *The True Gospel* in II Thessalonians 2:3 and (3) The Son of Perdition in Verses 3 and 4? The final phase concerns The Man of Sin – The Son of Perdition.

The origin of The Apostasy is a historical series of events. Yet this matter about The Son of Perdition has all the appearances of being a futuristic fulfillment – with Constantine as the prior type. Of course, it is fairly logical to perceive how: (1) A Historical Apostasy, could lead to a (2) futuristic finality – that is evidenced by this final Son of Perdition.

There is a critical correlation between The Olivet Prophecies of Jesus and the predictions by The Apostle Paul. Then the whole matter will be tied together in *The Book of Revelation* given to John, The Apostle. “...**Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold he is in the desert; go not forth: Behold, he is in the secret chambers; believe it not...**” (Matthew 24:26).

This is a serious matter. As a preface to discernment, consider that Jesus was in the **desert** when He was tempted of The Devil – before His public ministry began. Then, Jesus came into **the**

temple and cast out the money changers. But He never entered into The Most Holy Place. That was reserved for The High Priest. It was the most secret of all chambers.

This text of Matthew 24, therefore, supports the basic notion that THE GREAT FALSE MESSIAH may well begin His work in the desert – and then will ultimately place himself in **The Holiest of All** – just as Paul stated (II Thessalonians 2:4). What is the relationship of The Apostasy – the falling away from *The True Gospel* in II Thessalonians 2:3 and The Son of Perdition in Verses 3-4? Except there come **the falling away** first, then, the **man of sin**, The **Son of Perdition** is revealed. The Apostasy is a historical series of events. The Olivet prophecies of Jesus and the words of The Apostle Paul, tie together perfectly in *The Revelations* given to John.

Jesus, Paul and John identify The Son of Perdition. Then, Jesus spoke of **false** “Christs” and **false** “Prophets” to come in Matthew 24:24. In Verse 25, the **many false Christs**, are narrowed to **one false Christ**. This fallen angel is **an angel of light**. Always remember Satan can appear as an angel of light (II Corinthians 11:14). Is there a connection between Satan who can appear as an angel of light and the brightness of the coming of The Lord who will destroy The Son of Perdition with His Brightness? There is a direct correlation between Satan as the image appearing as the angel of light – The Son of Perdition, which will be destroyed by the greater brightness of The Son of Man. The greater brightness and brilliance of The Lord will put out the light of the projected image of The Son of Perdition.

The Apostle Paul is explaining. THE COMING OF THE LORD IN GREAT GLORY AND BRIGHTNESS AND WILL DESTROY THE LESSER LIGHT OF THE MOON GLOW OF SATAN WHO

CAN APPEAR IN BRIGHTNESS. Keep this, always, in mind as you continue this amazing story.

Is the projected **moon-bright** image of Satan – the very image of The Beast (Revelation 13)? **The truth** unfolds. The **historical false prophet** was The Emperor Constantine. The vision in the sky, a cross, with the words “**use this and go conquer**” was a false vision, which makes Constantine **a false prophet**. There is to be another vision in **the end of days**, an image, the projected image by Satan **believed** by many **to be The Return of The True Christ**. For Satan, himself can appear as an angel of light. Angels can and do appear in the form of a man. Although Satan has the inward character of a serpent as in The Garden of Eden, an appearance of a serpent would have never deceived Eve.

Just as “**the glory**” **covering** of God prevented the nakedness of Adam and Eve from being seen, “**the glory**” **covering** of the fallen angel of light deceived Eve. It was on The Isle of Patmos that God gave to Christ **the revelation** to give to John. *The Book of Revelation* was the last writing of *The New Testament Scriptures*. It should not surprise you that the last written testimony brings together The Witness of Jesus, Paul and *The Revelation* Jesus gave to John.

In Revelation 13, John is seeing in vision three symbolic beasts. In Verse 1, he observes a beast rising up out of the sea. In Verse 2, the power of the beast, out of the sea, is from the dragon, which is Satan. Satan gives power and great authority to the beast out of the sea. In Verse 4 a key statement is made. “**And they worshipped the dragon, which gave power unto the beast.**” The dragon is the beast that is worshipped and not the beast out of the sea.

In Revelation 13:2 and 11, John observes another beast coming up

out of the earth and he has two horns like a lamb and he spoke like a dragon. If you were asked to answer the question of which beast is in priority to the other two, you would most likely answer “the dragon.” The power and authority of the two beasts, the first out of the sea and second out of the earth, received their power and authority, from this dragon.

And, yet, in all commentaries on “**the beast**” in Revelation 13:12 is applied to **the first beast out of the sea**. The Greek for “first” is “protos” meaning “first in priority.” The first beast, in priority, is the source of power and authority given to the sea and earth beast and they worshipped the dragon (Verse 4). Then the image that is worshipped cannot be other than the dragon, being the beast of priority (Verse 14). It leaves little doubt the beast in priority, the dragon worshipped and the image of the beast is one and the selfsame character. Begin with the witness of Jesus in Matthew 24:26-28, which narrows it down to ONE FALSE Christ. Combine that with Paul’s witness in II Thessalonians 2:3, “**the great falling away**.” The third and last witness, which ties it all together, are The Revelations of Jesus Christ to John (Revelation 13).

When you read Professor Sanders’ book, *The Bible at Guanzum* (pages 25-26), you read The Ten Commandments written by The Finger of God were being broken. In the first place no one knows what Jesus looked like except He looked like a Jew. And, secondly, since Jesus is sitting at the right hand of God, no image or likeness of anything in heaven is to be made on earth.

Any statue or image of Jesus can only be the figment of the imagination of mankind being disobedient. Since Satan can appear as an angel of light, “**angels**” – good and evil – can manifest themselves in the appearance of a man. Satan can and does appear

in brightness. So angels and Satan can appear in the form of a man. For Satan to appear as a glorified man with his morning-star brightness, you may very well observe the false anti-Christ appearing and claiming to be **the true Christ** some time in the future.

Since The Doctrine of The Trinity claims Jesus is God, Satan in the greatest deception ever, may be, one day worshipped as The Lord Jesus Christ and God all in the same “**false Christ image.**” Although there were voices of descent, the images and statues of a Jesus they knew not, took on the form of pagan gods they **did know**. This future image, which will have life and can communicate, will soon appear. What will you do when it does appear and death awaits those who will not bow down to this false image (Revelation 13:14)?

CHAPTER 12

FROM THE PAST TO THE FUTURE

The “apostasy” and cover-up is not just an event in the future. The Gospel of God which was begun through Jesus, The Messiah, was a movement which began in “late second temple of Herod.” Judaism, then went to Rome and from there THE APOSTASY WAS MADE COMPLETE. The Emperor Constantine turned upside down The True Gospel as Jesus and The Apostles taught it. Although The Holy Roman Empire claimed to be the successors of The Gospel of Jesus and The Apostles, *The Book of Revelation* calls them false apostles and their synagogues are The Synagogues of Satan.

When The Gentile Church separated from The Messianic Jews and the original Twelve Apostles, they began to interpret *The New Testament* from the mindset of “**Greek culture.**” They taught a gospel mixed **with truth and error.** As Eve was deceived by Satan in The Garden of Eden, The Gentile Church fathers fell for the same lie. No one should judge but there is a saying, “When a lie is told often enough...” Jesus will be their judge. You now have the historic facts of what happened and in some sense why it happened. **“⁴And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. ⁵For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities”** (Revelation 18:4-5).

The three beasts are depicted in symbolic language (Revelation 13). The traditional view has been **the beast out of the sea** is the **one which an image was to represent**. However, the first in priority with the power is this dragon. Since then, the image of a false Christ has spread to the four corners of the earth. God warned that no image of anything in heaven above or the earth beneath is to be made, let alone prayed to. The first Three Commandments of God were broken when a supposed image of Jesus came out of the imagination of artists and sculptures. No one knows what Jesus looked like except He looked like a Jew.

The **false prophet** gave authority for the whole world to make an image of the beast that had been wounded by the sword but was still alive (Revelation 13:14). Jesus defeated this beast and bruised his head and took away his authority over those Christians who were worshipping God. But Satan still lives to deceive those who would worship this **false image** – THE ULTIMATE ANTI-CHRIST. You no longer worship Jesus in the flesh, but should worship Him in “**Spirit**” and “**truth.**” Could you have made a false image of Jesus in your mind and thoughts? Perhaps, but now, you need to STOP, MEDITATE and question what is false and what is TRUE.

The world is full of icons and images of what most think are a representation of Jesus Christ. Many remark they were inspired to make an image of Jesus Christ. But, remember those first Three Commandments of God: is to not make icons or images of anything in heaven above or the earth beneath. The false prophet has already spoken and commanded the whole world to make an image to the beast and most of the world has obeyed. So you, as a Christian, must decide for yourself whether to follow **the true Christ** in an image or icon made of metal, ceramics, stone or oils by man or not to look to images (Revelation 13). It is best for Christians

not to have any image by following **the commandments**.

In Matthew 22:36-40 an expert in The Law came to Jesus and asked, “³⁶**Teacher which Commandment in The Law is the greatest?** ³⁷**Jesus said to him, Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.** ³⁸**This is the first and greatest commandment.** ³⁹**The second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself.** ⁴⁰**All the Law and the prophets hang on these two commandments.”**

You must live by “**every word**” of God and **not the commandments of men**. In the last decades of the first century B.C., there was “**a drifting away**” from the very teachings of Jesus and The Apostles. In The Letter to The Seven Churches in Revelation, **false apostles** were already teaching a different gospel. God made a **covenant** with The Children of Israel which was to be everlasting. Commentaries interpret “**the false apostles**” of The Synagogue of Satan as The Synagogue of The Jews. This is a **false interpretation**. Because of anti-Jewish views of many of The Greek and Latin “**church fathers**,” their interpretations of *The Holy Scriptures* were from a Platonic world-view and mindset.

From The Word of God in *The Torah*, from The Prophets and from *The Scriptures OF JESUS AND THE APOSTLES*, came *The New Testament Scriptures*. You now have **the truth** with not only historical facts, but The Biblical Words of God, The Father.

You have *The Scriptures* and the **historical** evidence of a deception, which may be greater than the deception in The Garden of Eden. Prove all things and hold fast to that which is good. In *God’s Puzzle Solved – Chapter 7 – ‘The True Gospel’* – defines the difference between The Letter of The Law and The Spirit of The Law. It is through The Holy Spirit of God which will lead

you into all TRUTH.

Fourth Empire Exists Until The End Of Time

The Fourth Empire Rome – The Mystery Babylon never ceases to exist until the very end. Although there are changes in The Empire, such as fragmentations, the pieces and parts are prophesied **to come together for one last stand** against God. It may be nearer than you realize and the last great warning of God must be heeded. **“And I heard another voice from heaven saying, come out of her My people, that you be not partakers of her sins, and that you receive not of her plagues”** (KJV – Revelation 18:4).

God allowed The Apostles to realize Jesus would not return in their generation, so it became necessary to compile *The Gospels*, *The Epistles* and *The Letters*.

THERE YOU HAVE IT. THE APOSTASY AND THE COVER UP BEGAN AS EARLY AS 50-52 B.C. May God give you the gift of wisdom so He can protect you from Satan, The Evil One.