

Lastly and in this closing chapter of REPORTS, it would be negligent for a preacher of the Bible not to mention the severe consequences of a turning away from the truth in this life as well as the future consequences. Most at some point have heard the extreme consequences for the future life, but not for this present life which are also severe. Even as it takes severe effort on the part of God's people or unbelievers to "turn away from the truth" (II Timothy 4:4), so these turners become victims of severe consequences during their life on earth. It is not easy for unbelievers or for the "tares" in the church without the proper wedding garments, to resist the incessant wooing of the Holy Spirit as He does the job that the Father and Christ sent Him to planet earth accomplish, right up until the time of the Falling Away and the little while as Satan is released from bondage, and for over two thousand years since the first day of Pentecost after the Ascension, He has across the world, day and night, and persistently convicted the whole "world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment" (John 16:8) But you know, whether you are a stumbling and falling away brother who Paul has told in Hebrews 3:12 to "beware brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God"--and surely we know since that is the very definition of the Great Apostasy where most Christians and church members fall away or as Jesus said "because sin will abound the love of many will wax cold"; and then you perhaps know better if you have persisted as an unbeliever in spite of much exposure to Bible, and as you have listened to that small inner voice of the Spirit as He does convict you of sin, of righteousness,

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and of judgment, "of sin because you do not believe, or righteousness because instead of Christ being seen the Holy Spirit is felt, and of judgement because even the highest power on this earth, Satan, is judged by God at the end of this age.

NOTE: Hopefully you are not among those of church members who practice the self-delusion of a rapture sort of like a second second coming, seven years of Falling Away and final tribulation from which your are absent from this earth and so on and on with these extra-biblical words and concepts like millennium. If you are please read "Prep for 'the End'" of DEN OF THIEVES and also "Sound Doctrines of the Second Coming" which you can do at the web site of SunGrist_Bible, www.biblecombible-man.com .

20-1: Consider the Mountain to Climb in Order to Turn Away From Truth.

First we will consider church members as to how difficult it must be for them to cultivate and develop that "evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God" that Paul warned about in Hebrews--for one obvious thing they have more truth of God, Christ, and Jesus to turn away from than the unbeliever; but secondly we will consider the challenge to an unbeliever to remain in unbelief.

1. The Challenge to church members and churches to turn away from truth.

Another reason that Christians who are church members should be considered first is that the actual phrase of the Bible, "turn away from the truth" and of II Timothy 4:3,4, is written to church members. It is much harder for us Christians of over 50 years to imagine that a whole church can actual climb this mountain so high of "departing from the living God" (Hebrews x:xx) so as to actually turn away from truth. It is far easier to adjust our mental tents to the prospect of the first three stages of development of the Falling Away, most generally called and recognized as the Great Apostasy, where church members: (1) become intolerant of sound doctrine, "they will not endure sound doctrine"; (2) habitually practice lives and church membership driven more by their "own personal desires and wants" than Christ and the Spirit; and (3) heap up this vast number of Bible preachers and teachers in pulpits, pastorates, and on TV and in conferences, as well as in popular books of the "itching ears types. You know, that we can imagine; because for one thing we are seeing it now, on a large scale and in all churches and denominations. We can also because of what is on the American religious scene right now, imagine the fifth and final stage of the Falling Away easier than the fourth; that, of course, is where church

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members "are turned into fables", for we know some of the fables that both have been bought by the Mormons and the Roman Catholics, and the more current fables of the Gospel of Prosperity and Health, the rebellion against Bible teachings on marriage and divorce without any repentance to God, the massive number of special revelations that bring two curses of the Bible on the special revelators, and so on and on. However, our problem comes to consider what in the world will it take to move the majority of the whole church {and this is in the sense of the whole church here on earth which is not the same, by far, as the church of the firstborn written in heaven} away from "the faith once for all delivered to the saints" (Jude 3) and objectively recorded in the Bible as the Word of God. Every think the church does, and stands for, is personified in that Christian Faith and that Book. How did we get away from it?

2. The Challenge of the unbeliever to remain in unbelief.

Often and mistakenly we think of unbelief as a negative matter of such an absence of faith or belief; but not so, it takes a lot of positive effort on the part of unbelievers, especially as they ignore or oppose the wooing of the Holy Spirit, in order for them to remain in unbelief. It goes on relentless for years and years; that is, until they finally after over 40 years pass the point of no return {pardon the aeronautical term which is that you can no longer turn back on your journey or flight} called the "unpardonable sin".

3. In reality, based on the Bible, the unpardonable sin for unbelievers and church members is the same: it was taught by Jesus that all blasphemy would be permitted, like that the religious leaders of His day, committed as they denied Him, except against the Holy Spirit. You can say what you want to in the presence of preachers, Christians, his friends, and even in a church; but what down deep in your heart and for about 40 years you say to the Holy Spirit is what God will ultimately hold you accountable for as far as your eternal salvation.

4. And let it be emphasized again, as at the start of this chapter/message, that pass this point of no return of the unpardonable sin of unbelief, can mean almost as much destructiveness in your life, according to Romans 1, as the eternal lose of your soul! What happens is described in Romans 1:18-32, almost too horrible to list; and while there was a time when it could not be read publicly in churches, now compared to what is actually happening in churches and American society, it is mild!

20-2: What Happens to the Unbeliever or Departed in this Lifetime on Earth?

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1. The displeasure of God has always and persistently been "revealed from heaven" against: (a) all ungodliness, (b) all unrighteousness of men, and (c) against all who "suppress truth in unrighteousness". (Romans 1:18)

2. What may be known of the truth of God, God has and is manifesting to them, "for God {Himself} has shown it to them" through: (a) the designs and comforts of Creation which show clearly some of His attributes {even right here, "they are without excuse" (Romans 1:20) ; and (b) the high ideas, virtues, and characters held up and previously taught in American education and society; and (c) the soul or spirit that God has Created in every man with a mind, heart, and conscience...

"for when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do the things in the law; these, although not have the law, are a law to themselves, who show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and between themselves their thoughts accusing or else excusing them..." (Romans 2:14,15)

However we must get back to Romans 1 and what happens with continued rebellion against God.

3. Even as they knew and have known some things about God, and since "they did not glorify Him as God" (Romans 1:21), nor did they express or continue to express gratitude to God, three things happened to them during their lifetime on this earth: (a) their mentality was adversely affected as they "became futile in their thoughts"; (b) their emotions were drastically upset as "their foolish hearts were darkened"; and (c) their reputations and characters were ruined in the sight of their peers as "professing themselves to be wise, they became fools". {While the temptation is to stop here to elaborate on how the Bible in the OT states that "the fool has said in his heart there is no god" and in the NT how God takes "the wise in their own craftiness", even to dwell more on Romans 1 and 2, but instead we will complete this broad outline now in order to put before you more pressing matters, then in a later section of this chapter, come back to some part of Romans 1 and 2.}

What happens with continued unbelief and "departing from the living God"?

4. As unbelievers, or lack of believers, become more and more foolish in mind, heart, and imagination, (a) they make images to take the place of the God of Truth and the Truth of God, images like men, birds, animals, and even

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"creeping things" (Romans 1:23); (b) God gives them up to uncleanness and the lusts of their own hearts so that they dishonor their bodies between themselves, men with men and women with women; and (c) God gives them over to a "debased mind" to swing through the whole gauntlet of unrighteousness, from sexual immorality to deceit and unbelief {actually there is a list of 23 bad habits which goes even beyond the list of 19 bad habits among church members of II Timothy 3:1-9}.

NOTE: We will also need to come back to this chapter of Romans on what God does in this life to the unbeliever and departee. You see it in 1:26 with the "God gave them up to vile passions"; you see it in the 1:28 of "God gave them over to a debased mind"; and above that in 1:24 where "God also gave them up to uncleanness"; just like you will find as we look next at the "Strong Delusion" of II Thessalonians where "God sends strong delusion" because (1) "they did not receive the love of the truth" (II Thessalonians 2:10, and (2) so much love of the truth rejected to prohibit "that they might be saved".

20-3: What God does in This Lifetime to Those Who Turn Away from Truth!

Even as perhaps you noticed from the reading in II Timothy 4:3,4 of the five stages of the Falling Away development--intolerance toward sound doctrine, driven by wants and personal desires, the vast heaping up of Bible teachers with "itching ears", the "turning away from truth", and the "are turned into fables", is that the average church member of the Falling Away turns himself away from truth, God turns him into fables, just like in some of the details of the Falling Away as given in II Thessalonians, as unbelievers and departees do not receive a wholesale love of the truth so they can be saved, then "God will send them strong delusion" (II Thessalonians 2:10 and 11). You just noted also what God did to the minds, hearts, imaginations, and etc of those who caught themselves in the downward spiral of a godless life as "they would not retain God in their thinking" (Romans 1:28). Can you imagine that? All these bad things came into the character and personalities of unbelievers simple because they would not stop to think about God; yet, He is our Creator and Sustainer, our Judge, and "we are the sheep of His pasture", He is the potter and we are the clay; and certainly He is entitled--God be LORD forever and glorified, as He will be, world without end, Amen, Amen, and Amen!

While we still must answer more adequately how the church of churches can actually "turn away from the truth" as it is in God, Christ, and the Bible, having only introduced the subject and having briefly looked at some of the bad things

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that happen in the life that does turn away from truth, we will continue to consider all these Scriptures on what God Himself does to those who turn away truth.

1. When the church and church members turn away from truth, according to II Timothy 4:3,4, they "will be turned aside to fables". It might at first seem to be the automatic result of a turning away from truth, and that is possible, but in light of how we must consider the similarity of the content of II Timothy 4:3,4 with that of II Thessalonians on "strong delusion", then we must put the weight of the interpretation of Scriptures also with God turns them into fables even as He in II Thessalonians 3:11 "sends them strong delusion". Of course we know from the context of II Thessalonians that this strong delusion happens after: (1) the Holy Spirit is withdrawn from earth; (2) this withdrawal of the Spirit releases Satan for "a little while" (Revelation 20:3) from the bondage and restrictions that he has been in since the Spirit came to earth on the first day of Pentecost since the Ascension; (3) after the church of Christians are well into the Falling Away; and (4) after the son of perdition becomes apparent and visual to the church.

It is easy to see how the Mormons with their four non-Christian Bibles were influenced by a fallen angel and Satan to turn into the fables of those Bibles in response to the curse on (1) all that add to or take away from the book of Revelation and the Bible, plus the curse on (2) those who preach another Gospel, say like their "Reformed Gospel" of good works for salvation; and further to see the Roman Catholics long ago and about mid-history {"the latter times of I Timothy x:xx}, allowed themselves to so turn away from truth of Scripture and Christ as they became subject to "seducing spirits and doctrines of devils", not only putting man's authority above the Word of God, and taking forgiveness of sins and granting of salvation away from God and Christ in favor of their own priests, but also those fables of I Timothy mentioned as "forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats that are good for the body". However, how can the denominations and preachers and teachers and church members that we have known so long and grown up with turn away from truth to the extent that they turn into fables?

2. The obvious answer has to be, and based on Scripture, that when they actually do it, and like the religious leaders of the Jews during the life of Christ, that when they come to the point of doing it, they do not even know that it is happening to them. {Of course, as is the point of this emphasis, God does it, that is the turning into fables, when it sees in any life no longer a hope for the

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recognition of the truth.} They are blind and they are blind to the fact that they are blind; they have eyes and they can not see; they have ears, and they can not hear. They stumble over the stumbling block of the truth and the truths of Christ.

3. We dare not progress too far on without a brief mention of "THE LIE" of II Thessalonians 2:11--"And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie"--with its similarity to "THE LIE" of Romans 1:25--"who exchanged the truth of God for the lie".

(1). You can easily see in Romans 1:25 that "the lie" is the very personification of falsehood, half-truths, and lies since the context is that the lies is substituted for "the truth of God".

"who exchanged the truth of God {you see how these unbelievers and departees made an exchange like they would with money, changing from truth to lies} for the lie, and worshipped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen." (Romans 1:25)

NOTE: How easy it is for church members to adopt such bad habits as to worship and serve human creatures more than God, even as it is easy to practice the other bad habits of II Timothy 3:1-8 such as "lovers of self", "lovers of money", and "lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God"; and are you start to see a pattern in God's Word for "the love of the truth" which also can easily be replaced by love of these other persons and things, even as truth can be replaced with THE LIE.

(2). In the context of "THE LIE" of II Thessalonians 2:10-12, you can also identify the lie as the opposite of "the love of the truth" about salvation through faith and through Christ; and with the specifics of the lie identified in the same context as: (a) unrighteous deception; (b) those who perish as far as eternal life by believing; (c) those who refuse the love of truth; (d) those who believe what will not save, and even here you see what effort and positive exertions it takes to refuse belief; (e) they believe the lie so that it has doctrines, even if perhaps sometimes those doctrines of devils that God through Paul wrote about in I Timothy. (f) the nature of the lie and the beliefs of the lie, alias falsehood, is such as to bring condemnation now and eternally on the unbeliever {John 3:17 where the lack of belief makes them "condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of Christ"}; (g) "they do not believe the truth"; and (h) "they have pleasure in unrighteousness".

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NOTE: Do you find habitual pleasure in "unrighteousness"?

20-4: Love of Truth in the Abstract Can Wipe Out Real Truth in the Concrete.

Just imagine, you that have always loved truth in science and education and learning; and to think that the commitment of your life can be such that you actually "turn away from truth" and are turned into fables. They betrays all that you have ever believed and practiced on truth, honesty, intellectual honesty, and science, and education. And it would be very wise to add here the insight of "absolute truth" and "relative truth" that Dr. R. A. Millikan, the nobel prize winning physicist for his proof of a discrete particle known as the electron, gave to us in his lectures and book "Evolution in Science and Religion". Some of the prime points of this book.

1. There is an evolution in science as well as in religion.
2. Men of science are human also, and science is not as objective as many think. It evolves like other disciplines such as religion with a combination of the knowledge of absolute truth and relative truth. In both disciplines, pride and other human frailties play as much a part as "intellectual honesty". {While this is this author's addition to some of the thoughts of Millikan, based on this concept from the Christian Philosopher of Religion Elton Trueblood, you do see the germ of these thoughts in Millikan, and certainly the stimulus.}
3. Like Millikan pointed out near the end of the twentieth century all the physicists {physics, of course, is the ultimate in science that all others try to emulate such as the social scientists} were claiming that all the important discoveries had already been made, and all that would remain in the future for next generations to do would be to improve the accuracy of the previous measurements. Of course, after these audacious statements, and haughtiness of pride, from such physicists came the many new discoveries such as: X-rays, natural radiation, quantum physics and the Hesinberg uncertainty principle, the modified Bohr theory of the Atom, and nuclear and modern physics.

20-5: "We don't have to win, only Fight" During the Falling Away.

Although it gauls us as Americans and American Christians since we are so competitive and like to always win, this fight against the Final Stages of the Falling Away---stage (4) and (5) is inevitably one battle that we are going to lose. We can put up a good fight, and according to the Bible we must put up a good fight; and granted that our victory will come after the Falling Away and Final Tribula-

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tion with the Second Coming of Christ, we must get through as gracefully as possible that "little while" of strong delusion after Satan is released, with the final tribulation of the heavens and the earth crumbling around us, just before the blessings of the new heavens and new earth. However, as emphasized in the chapter/message of "Prep for 'the End'" of DEN OF THIEVES, while much of the teachings of Jesus of Matthew 24 and Luke 21 are on the signs of the Falling Away and Final Tribulation, the prime message of Christ is for Christians to get ready to go through the Falling Away and the Final Tribulation.

1. Why do you think you read so often in the Bible, "Fight the good fight of faith"?

Paul seemed resigned in the concluding chapter 4 of II Timothy that the fight against falsehood as a body of truth was going to be lost, at least that one gigantic long battle was going to be lost before the final warfare was going to be won with the Second Coming of Christ. Just before in 4:1 and 2, and before announcing that the battle against false truth would be lost as the Falling Away went through the five stages of development, presents two more positive aspects of this end time of history: (1) God will have the final say and last words of the history of this world with His judgment--"who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing" (4:1), (2) with His Second Coming immediately after falsehood wins with the majority of world residents over truth, and (3) with the full realization of His kingdom on earth as the new heaven and new earth are ushered in and populated by the new people that God has been calling out from among the world for many generations.

You can tell by the way Paul urges young Timothy to "preach the word", and therefore to all preachers of the Word and all Christians of all time since this also is part of the Scripture of the Word of God, that there will come that time in history when all on earth, even God's people, will listen to and heed less and less the truth of the Bible. You read into the admonition an urgency of the shortness of time and history as God through Paul writes, "Be ready in season and out of season", and continues with the specifics of methodology in preaching, testimony, and witnessing and of church administration, "Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching" (II Timothy 4:2). And then pop, the guarantee comes of the inevitability of the Falling Away in the church, that of the great apostasy, as it goes into the first stage of historical development with "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine" {You see, the implication is that is it almost all over, at least among the majority of God's people, for a reception of the truth in preaching and correction.}; and ending

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with "and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables." (4:4)

There is sadness in the heart and life of Paul who has started all these Christian churches among whom young Timothy must preach and teach in spite of their hardening hearts toward truth and the competition against these itching ears Bible teachers; there is some measure of sadness as Paul knows that shortly he will as a martyr in Rome be leaving some many dear Christian friends among the minority such as young Timothy and others--"the time of my departure is at hand" (4:6). However Paul would encourage Timothy and others engaged in the present fight against the body of falsehood beliefs in that: (1) in that the "good fight" (4:7) has been fought; (2) in that the race God has set out for the few has been successfully run against all odds; (3) in that "the faith once for all delivered to the saints" of Jude 3 has been retained--"kept"--to the end of life on this earth; (4) in that the full "crown of righteousness" awaits Paul and others with the body resurrection at the Second Coming of Christ; (5) in that Christ Himself, "the righteous Judge" will give to Paul and all others on that same one "Day" of His Second "appearing".

2. You don't read victory, but only battle, in the famous Christian armor passage of Ephesians 6:10-20: (1) it is to be "strong" without any assurance of a win for that strength; and (2) it is to "wrestle" against "principalities" {this is the famous "the lie" or the body of beliefs of falsehood}, against powers which are much bigger than us {those of the world and of Satan, although elsewhere in the Word we are guaranteed that "greater is He that is in us than he that is in the world"}, against "the rulers of the darkness of this world" {here you have your falsehood and wickedness from both those that control the world of human flesh and the ruling of Satan, who is after all the "prince and ruler of this world", and his many powerful and fallen angels with him}, and against "spiritual wickedness in high places" {certainly this is Satan and his followers, once angels of light and of service to God, but still with much power to maim and destroy and influence toward falsehood, even more so as for "the little while" near the end of the Falling Away they are loosed from the bondage and restrictions of the work of the Holy Spirit here on earth.

3. Of course, the victory over sin and death, over Satan and falsehood, is also mentioned often, and does come, like Paul says after either death or the Second Coming of Christ, which ever comes first for the very few that are Christians. It has never been a secret, as Jesus taught often and hard, that while the majority of the "many" of the world would go the way of falsehood to

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destruction that only a minority of a "few" would go the narrow way of truth that leads to everlasting life; nor has it been a secret that thousands and millions of tares have been allowed to remain in the church body on earth, of course not written in the only church roll that really counts in heaven, until separation at the Second Coming from the few kernels of wheat left in the church on earth; nor has it been a secret that of the many of church members during the Falling Away most will, also according to Jesus in Matthew 24, "wax cold" to truth, Christ, God, and the Bible as "sin abound", this of course is also the rising tide of the mystery of sin and lawlessness of II Thessalonians as Satan is released, and as the son of perdition makes his appearances and for a short time establishes some control over history and the world.

(1). "This is the victory that overcomes the world, even our faith."

(2). "Thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ".

(3). "Death is swallowed up in victory. Oh death where is your sting, of grave where is your victory."

20-5: What Will Get Church Members Over that Hump as they turn away?

We still must account for sufficient motivation to get the majority of church members over the hump as they make this drastic move to "turn away from truth", the fourth and next to the last stage of development in the Falling Away.

1. The Falling Away is called the *Great Apostasy* because it happens to the majority of church members and churches.

2. When Jesus taught in Matthew 24:xx that "because sin will abound" during the Falling Away--obvious the same rising tide of lawlessness and sin that is a mystery in II Thessalonians and of the Falling Away--"the love of many will wax cold", and since this love had to exist among Christians before it could fall away, and since Jesus says it will happen among the "MANY", then MOST CHRISTIANS OR CHURCH MEMBERS WILL FALL AWAY, OR TO USE THE WORDS OF PAUL IN HEBREWS, "DEPART FROM THE LIVING GOD" BECAUSE OF AN EVIL HEART OF UNBELIEF, DURING THE GREAT APOSTASY OF THE FALLING AWAY.

3. How can this happen to Our Church?

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(1). As you keep up the intolerance toward sound doctrine of the Falling Away, the first stage of the Falling Away from II Timothy 4:3,4.

(2). As you continue to fail on an exercise of the self-discipline under the headship and control of Christ in your church life, granted the most democratic and respected institution of the vote, with a priority for your own wants and desires like in the second stage of the Falling Away of II Timothy 4:3,4.

(3). All you have to do is just keep heaping up in many ways and through many channels those "itching ears" Bible teachers with their special, new, and novel special revelations and unsound doctrine perspectives and teachings.

(4). The final move before God takes over and turns you and your church into "strong delusion" or into fables, is as you and your church move away from the truth as it is in the Bible, Christ, and God; and since you have previously made it through the first three hurdles successfully, or wrongfully, then you at this point will, no doubt, not even recognize that you are turning away from truth. What those itching ears Bible teachers and preachers, false prophets if you would, have been telling you for years and in books, comes to make a lot more sense than the truth of the Bible, to you!

20-6: The Body of Beliefs called "The LIE" of Falsehood.

Even as there is in the world and in control of this world system a progenitor of evil and falsehood, always at work and relentless in his efforts at the destruction of truth and good, this one taught in the Bible as Satan and once an angel of light, even so is there a false body of beliefs, say call it false truth, that wars against truth as strongly, in fact more strongly in numbers as it will win out over the majority of people, that counters and opposes all truth, all of the spiritual realities of Christ, God, and the Bible, as well as the "faith once for all delivered to the saints".

We might compare that body of falsehood, THE LIE, to the truth of the Christian faith, the "faith once for all delivered to the saints" (Jude 3) by talking about a "false faith once for all delivered to the world through Satan and his angels". Don't forget it worked on the Roman Catholics about mid-history as they became victims of "seducing spirits and doctrines of devils"; don't forget it worked on the Mormons as one of those fallen angels, Maronni that now sits on top of the Temple at Mormon Square, delivered to Joseph Smith Bibles that compete for truth against the Christian Bible; and primarily do not forget that this false faith once from all delivered to the world has worked throughout

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history among the majority of the world and during the Falling Away among the majority in the church body here on earth.

1. God's intention as revealed often in His Word has been to selectively chose from each generation of history a very small number that would finally complete the exact number of "the elect" that He needs in order to repopulate this new earth after the destruction of the old earth and heavens.

2. God's Word assures that all these few from each generation of history will be selective to the extent that no longer on the new earth will there be any little bit of unrighteousness.

"But there shall be no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life." (Revelation 21:27)

NOTE: This speaks of the assured ultimate victory! The victory of the body of faith and truth over unbelief and falsehood; the victory of God's Christ over Satan; the victory of everlasting life over death and sin and pain and suffering.

As all called, saved, and chosen elect of God from all generations of the history of this earth, and from all the nations of the Gentiles, are populated by God on the new earth, and surrounding the New Jerusalem lowered down from heaven {Revelation 21} with the throne of God, Jesus, and the leadership of the saved Jews, then all this new people of God will dwell, serve, and work forever near the very presence of God and Christ themselves. And that is more of the ULTIMATE VICTORY which requires faith on the part of Christians to believe now, but will be easy for all of them as they see what is around them, and they are there with all the real Christian friends and relatives of all times in history! With an Amen to this, we write: "Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, nor has it entered into the heart of man, the things that God has prepared for them that love Him."

And the desire and goal of this REPORT TO AND FOR BELIEVING has to been to invite you relatives of my family to a reunion time and place there, also to my extended family of friends to whom this book has been addressed. Won't it be grand!

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3. Even as Jesus clearly identified "the end" of this world age before the new heavens and the new earth as happening immediately after the Gospel is preached to every nation (Matthew 24:14), so also He through the Apostle Peter writing in II Peter 3:12 established that the church of the Falling Away, and those Christians long before in the history of Christianity, that is at least of the kingdom of Christ on earth, would have a part in the time of that Second Coming of Christ, "hastening the day of the LORD and Lord".

20-7: Non-Religious Dimensions of Personality without God retention.

Remember, according to God's Word in Romans 1--and Who knows His Creatures better than the Creator as we are created by God and in "the image of God", which above all has to include character and personality, generally of course, the Bible words to describe character and personality are "heart", "soul", "spirit", and "mind"; but back to God's Word according to Romans, the disintegration and destruction of personality in this life starts with the simple negligence of the Creature for the Creator, "since they would not retain God in their thinking", God gave them up to. Right then and there before over 40 years of neglect to think about God, and by the way worship God "in spirit and in truth", all those bad things mentioned in Romans 1 and 2 begin to happen to the unbeliever, and also the believer who "departs from the living God" in his heart and thoughts.

Of course, what is being presented here for non-religious dimensions of personality is based on, and an opposite takeoff, on Wayne Oates famous book **THE RELIGIOUS DIMENSIONS OF PERSONALITY**. This former professor of religious psychology at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary presents, as many of you pastors and religious educators know, presents in good detail and with examples how from psychology and Bible man being made in the image of God and with a natural created affinity for God, has inherently certain "dimensions" of religious personality. {Perhaps you are reminded of the conscience mentioned in Romans 2 that "accuse and excuse" as part of man's religious dimensions of personality, this conscience working on both the individual level as part of the "spirit" of man and further at the "community" level--by the way "community" is one of the listed religious dimensions of personality as man has certain group tendencies, also ordained by God. You can easily see that at the community level of conscience, it becomes the American Conscience that becomes, in the words of Romans, "a law unto itself, accusing and excusing one another" of the local community, state and national community, and world community. {We are definitely describe in personality by our communities at all level, alias what state were you born in, were you raised in the city or country,

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or both, and what country where you fortunate to be raised in, and the extent of your patriotism, and how much world awareness and experience do you }

Other religious dimensions of personality listed by this former teacher, scholar and Christian psychologist {the kind of psychologist that we should be paying far more attention to than to the behaviorism of B. F. Skinner and the pragmatists like William James--which by the way along with the Gospel of Wealth and Success movement in American Thought History has been bought "hook, line, and sinker" by Americans and American Character, are: purpose, meaning, and, integration.

And this very dimensions tend to disappear and disintegration, the dimensions become more lacks of dimensions, through many years of persistent unbelief. For example according to Romans 1 and 2 the purpose as listed in the Bible in Ephesians x:xx, where God brings together in Christ all things as one {this is also ultimate integration}, is lost; and in spite of recent efforts by Rich Warren in "purpose driven" lives and purpose driven churches to substitute as a religious dimension of personality what God has ordained for "purpose"--in other words you should keep Holy Spirit and Christ in the place of purpose yielding based on the Bible, especially Ephesians, the Holy Spirit and/or Christ driven life and church. While it may seem paradoxical that among church members, such substitutes as offered by a fundamentalists pastor, of the best-selling book category, can assist in the disintegration of purpose as ordained by God as a religious dimension of personality; it is only typical of all the substitutes that Christians and church members come up when to replace God's ordained religious dimensions of personality when they both (1) refuse to think about God, and (2) substitute artificially, superficially, and secondaries for thought and worship of God. {The consistent teachings of the Bible are that we are made for God, that is part of our image, and as human beings there is something missing in our personalities and characters when God is not thought about, worship, and given the due place in our life style.}

Also personality through the years of no thoughts about God, no prayer, and no allegiance to God, begin to lose "integration" and "meaning". Crudely stated, there is no real meaning to life apart from God, Christ, and the Bible; and to life when it is short-termed. Why work and plan and think when you know "you can not take it with you", even on your personality and character development. True, you can keep a certain reputation in your communities; but even that you can not take with you as they will disappear into eternity also.

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Likewise with integration. How can you possibly integrate meaning with life style unless God is retained in thinking and life style. According to Romans the less you think about God, and worship God to give Him his due, the more dis-integrated, the opposite of integrated, does your life become. Even as we all recognize a social evolution in world history, in American history, in our society and world, so we recognize by reading Romans 1 and 2 a sort of social de-evolution downward, as instead of progressing to better persons and a better society, without God in the thought processes, the spiral is downward into an abyss in this very life of darkened thoughts, passions, thoughts, and morality in life.

20-8: Greed in America has Disintegrated the American Economy.

Yes, even as a lack of faith in God can disintegrate the individual personality, so the believing of the lie at the national level, with the "greed and wickedness" that comes with it, can disintegrate the National collective personality or character. Some in American Studies have even described the life style of Americans as the American Character. And surely, if you have never recognized the problems with greed in American Society, you are seeing it now. Almost all, except Bush who chose to call mistakes the failures of Banks and other financial institutions, refer to a combination of "greed and incompetence" as the reason for this current financial crisis in the country, and in the world. Politicians and commentators have suddenly in this last year began to sound more like preachers and the religious as they mention so often "greed" as the real cause of the current financial crisis and hardships; and while it would be difficult to prove from the Bible that the present lack of blessings from God on our nation, one which is called a curse in the Bible, is like all the other calamities that have come on this nation since 9/11, you know even as Benjamin Franklin said at the Continental Convention that formed this nation, "A nation can not rise to greatness without His blessing"--just like a sparrow can not fall to the ground without His notice--so the opposite is true, when calamities like all the fires, floods, hurricanes, 9/11, and etc come on a country it is a certain sign that God has removed the umbrella of His blessings from this country. Did God send this economic collapse as a punishment to this nation for a lack of righteousness and effectual fervent prayer of the churches? Once again, that is hard to prove from the Bible; however, it is quite easy to support from the Bible the individual and collective to a Nation bad effects and disintegration where "greed and wickedness" have come to dominate the nation as we find in America today.

1. Proverbs 1:19 speaks of how anyone and "everyone who is greedy of gain" loses his own individual life. It is also a group and social action like in a nation

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as the conclusion of this "taking away of the life of the owner" of greed, starts in 1:10 with an enticement and invitation from a larger group to the son of the writer, "Come with us" (1:11) to "lurk secretly for the innocent without cause"; and certainly what has happened now on Wall Street and in Banks and big business is the result of bad decisions and greed for many of the past years--it has been done for the most part in secret--and certainly it has been against many "innocent" Americans and "without cause" in that the motivation was not really so much to destroy innocent Americans, that was only the end result. And how can you fail to recognize in 1:13 the motivation of financial and government leaders for material possessions when you read, "We shall find all kinds of precious possessions", a collective invitation from Wall Street and big business to get, get, get to the extent of greed. Covetousness is the wickedness, and when covetousness has been given full reign in a nation like now, it is characterizable in the Bible as "greed". And then is top to bottom greed in America, or vice versa whether you are talking about the greed of the home buyer who purchased more than they needed and could handle with their budget, or the realtor in the middle, or the banker and insurer at the top, or the CEO who profited so much gain while knowing that both his company and the economy was going down the drain.

"So are the ways of everyone who is greedy for gain. It takes away the life of its owners." (Proverbs 1:19)

2. In the sight of God the number one leaders in a nation are the pastors and deacons of a church, and the Bible cautions both of these groups of leaders not to be "greedy for money". {I Timothy 3:3,8} Along with such high standards from God of a righteousness described by "blameless", the husband of one wife, "sober minded", and "of good behavior", there is this admonition individually and collectively in the church not to be greedy for money.

3. Even as Jesus said "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35); and that in the context of all the teachings of Jesus, the blessings or curses from God come more in the long range of eternity after judgment, also you can see the adverse effects on any leader or other person in this life as it becomes apparent to them of the end results of all their actions and greed. Even if you have not cultivated an adverse attitude toward the Gospel of Wealth and the corollary of success, a major thought pattern in American Thought and one truly dominate today in the disintegrated economy, you must see that the life style of Americans that finally lead to this collapse has been "receive, receive, receive" instead of "give, give, give"--receive big homes of extreme comfort and pride, receive large and larger salaries and profits and gains, receive more material

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possessions and recognition, and receive more and more millions without restraint until it goes into billions. There is only so much pie available; and so many get more and more of the American pie, it does not get to all. Those 10% of Wall Street that control 50% of the American wealth, those you might say of more than \$250,000 a year, have both taken advantage of the 90% of Americans, the people in the land, and have almost, if not literally, to use the words and concepts of Proverbs 1 taken the blood of innocent people. These gains of the 10% have been at the expense of the blood and sweat of most poorer Americans.

4. It was this very destruction of the inward character and personality of the religious leaders of His own time that Jesus spoke of in Luke 11:29, when He taught that they were so concerned with the outward personality characteristics of the washing of hands, cups, and dishes while their religious characters inside, "the inward part" (11:39) "is full of greed and wickedness". That God that made the outside personality also made the inside character, Jesus taught. (11:40) And further that if you concentrate on giving what you have, little or much, rather than receiving more, you whole personalities and characters are cleaned up. {You might call this behavior and character of cleaning up, or cleaning up your act, as integration.} The real fault of these leaders, even as government and business leaders today, was that in favor of an appearance of cleanness and neatness in their lives {morality and ethics}, they have passed right by in their life "justice and the love of God" (11:42). True, Jesus said, you should continue in ethics; but while you are doing that, do not leave out this important aspects of JUSTICE and LOVE OF GOD. You want, want, want the "best seats" and the respect and "greetings" in the marketplace of Wall Street; but Jesus for God expresses "woes", or curses, on them because of this greed of behavior that goes with this wickedness (11:42,43), and it is a present, not wait for eternity curse, in that they have become inside "like graves which are not seen, and the men who walk over them are not aware of them" (11:44). The lawyers {also CEOs, government officials, and Bankers}, Jesus also criticized (11:45,46), because they "load men with burdens hard to bear, and you yourselves do not touch the murders with one of your fingers".

5. Paul, and God through Paul, criticized church members in Ephesians 4:19 for the destruction of their own personalities by being like other Gentiles of the world around them, "who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness." And in this whole passage of Ephesians 4:17-19, before the outstanding admonition to properly Learn Christ, you see how ordinary Gentiles of the world, apart from Christ, over a

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period of their life, say 40 years, practice a disintegration of life here on earth, way before eternity: (1) they walk or live a life style of "the futility of their mind" (4:17); (2) since they are "alienated from the life of God", then inevitable according to God and Paul, "their understanding darkened"; (3) ignoring the things and thoughts of God and the Bible, they are called "ignorant" {by the way very close to strong delusion}; (4) they become "blind of heart", certainly strong delusion; (5) past feeling for God and others, you might call it indifference; and (6) have given themselves over to "lewdness". {Lewdness as used in the Bible, especially in Jude 4, Acts 18:14, and throughout the Old Testament, especially in Ezekiel 16:27, literally means "evil, wicked, wicked thoughts, and wicked devices". It is easy to conclude that we in America have witnessed a lot of this lewdness of behavior from inward hearts dedicated to greed in our destroyed economy. None, except the 90% of the people, were victims of inevitable circumstances; but the recipients of the mistakes and greed on economic leaders.}

20-9: Strong Delusion from American leaders about the Economy.

Can we compare the strong delusion from God of the final stages of the Falling Away to the recent delusions cast on Americans by our American leaders in government, business, and even in schools and colleges. You know that many of them before the final drop of the ball on the economy knew that this was coming; and while you can easily see how financial leaders such as in Fidelity and AIG can hardly expect investments without confidence, and that they would cover up, this same can not be said of all these leaders of the economy. Remember how such a leader as President Bush was encouraging Americans to make 401Ks, perhaps the greatest victim of this economic crisis, their primary source of retirement, and in the place of Social Security. This has been disastrous for thousands, even millions of Americans. Recently a former teacher of finance in a University said two things about this strong delusion: (1) he felt bad about encouraging his students quite a few years ago to get into these failed financial institutions like AIG and many others "bailed out" by the American public through their agents of government; and (2) wait until the new reports come out on the 401Ks for teacher retirements, and there will be more shock. **{There is so much government waste even in our programs to feed and help people in the incompetence of civil service and the indifference with which they administer this programs. Civil Service was a good system when Roosevelt first developed it, but now it is in need of a major overhaul as (1) after one year, they can hardly be fired, or ever are; (2) they find their prime job is to lay low in the stealth mode and protect their own rear ends, CFT; and (3) like Candalice Rice, a product of the Washington Civil Service System, who Donald Trump said, "Bless her heart, she waves her hands and smiles, and**

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that is about all she does”, they know how to simply hold a position, scrap the gravy off the top of the American economy for themselves like “scum”, and lay low while making little or no real contributions to America and the American people. In their minds and their thoughts, much like the Red Cross and other social institutions, they conceive of themselves as more supervisors and administrators than of servants for the American people!}

1. While this strong delusion may not be by way of Osama Bin Ladin and Satan, part of the strong delusion of II Thessalonians and that of the final stages of the Falling Away, it has the same effects on the American people and the world of that strong delusion. And perhaps in even more ways, as far as what the American people feel and hurt, you do get the attention of the American people when you start hurting both their pocketbook and their standard of living, especially when it leads to hopelessness as has happened to many average Americans lately of the wage earning type. What is being said, is that the results are the same, whether the strong delusion has come from God, from Satan, or from leaders in government, finance, and education!

2. We know the source of “greed” and “avarice”, whether in education, commerce, and government as: (1) the human spirit within us that lusteth to envy; and (2) the motivation from Satan. It is bad enough that these American leaders of the economy have by their greed and incompetence, and in the words of Proverbs 1, run swiftly in the destruction of their own lives and careers; but add to that by their cover-ups, if not their intents, they have lead millions of Americans into economic chaos.

3. To the list of leaders in science and religion, and from Millikan in “Evolution in Science and Religion”, we must add leaders in education and government and business who also thought they knew everything about the economy like science thought they knew everything about physics at the turn of the century. How no new developments would come after the 1900s, only improvements in the measurements already made in classical physics.

4. We might easily compare such haughtiness in financial leaders, a certain know-it-all-attitude that promoted deception and cover-up, sometimes even as CEOs were bailing out of their own companies stock to leave the employees hold the bag in their 401Ks, to that of physicists at the beginning of the twentieth century. A haughtiness then which had it's bubble busted by modern physics, a haughtiness now which has its bubble busted by the realities of the American economy on Main Street and on Wall Street.

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5. In all of the calamities that have come on the US since 911 in the floods, hurricanes, fires, earthquakes, etc, none have so devastated and affected the American people right where they live and worship as has this financial crisis. While floods and hurricanes have been limited to certain areas as have also fires and earthquakes and droughts, the economic collapse has gone into every home. And if it has not been felt now, it will be felt in the future tax increases that will be required. It will also be felt for our children and grandchildren as they seek to pay how the huge budget deficit required to bail out all these financial institutions which before only wanted our money.

6. Have you noticed beside the doling out of money to the well-to-do with incomes of over 250,000 a year **{and by the way this includes the Congress and administration}**, the solution of these economic leaders is to: (1) entice the American people to spend more money; and (2) entice the American people to borrow more money. This will shift the American pot of money from the people to them. While this effort to get the little piece of pie that is left to 90% of the American people, the effect in turn is to make the piece of pie which those that 10% of the American people have. While some Republicans recently complained, and the people know better, that Obama was going to re-distribute the wealth of America from a few to the many, what is really happening with these recent efforts to entice the American public, especially to spend during the Holidays, is to bring the bigger piece of pie back tot he 10% of Americans that control and spend over 50% of the money.

7. The strong delusion on the economy certainly had the same ultimate source as the strong delusion of the Falling Away: (1) a turning of ears away from truth, in the case of the economy on the realities of the World and American stable economic system, alias what is sensible and even moderate, or none greedy; and (2) the being turned into fables, in the case of the economy the fable that all, leaders and people, could practice wholesale greed and incompetence without destruction affects on America and the world. Of course, part of the fables that America has been turned into is: (1) that we can keep spending without any day of accountability for the country; (2) we can borrow indefinitely and without limit as much from foreign countries as we want; and (3) that the money can simply be printed that we need without any future effect on the dollar in the world. When such idealistic and reckless behavior is allowed to take the place of good old common sense, we as a nation have certainly turned into fables, one of those pre-dominant fables being that "if the government does it, it can not be wrong", or the corollary "if the government does it, everything will be alright."

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8. Based on Millikan and what happened to the so-called scientific at the beginning of the Twentieth Century, let us modify the title of his lectures and book to "Evolution in Science, Religion, and Economics". Well, really we should call it a "De-evolution in Economics of the Twenty-First Century". Even as Bush will go down in history as another Hoover, so this century of 2008 will go down in the history books as both the greatest depression and recession since Hoover, with the exception that now we see so much cover-up and deception on the part of economic leaders. They wanted us to have confidence in them; but now we think that either none know economics, or they do not care as they rush to take care of themselves before the close of the stock market. **{Are they really trying to save the American people of the 90% with 50% of the American money, or are they trying to save the 10% of Americans with 250,000 or more of 50% of the American money?}**

9. The problem with the trickle down theory of Bush, McCain, and the Republicans is that it can not trickled down through the greed and avarice filter. "Avarice is greed gone amuck", and certainly we see that in the financial leaders of this country after so many years of cover-up and deceit.

20-10: How This Relates to the "To Believe" and "For Believing" Gist of this Book.

It is safe to say based on the Bible details of the Falling Away, especially the book of Hebrews, II Timothy 3 and 4, II Thessalonians, and Matthew 24 and Luke 21 from Jesus, that approximately 50% of unbelievers are church members and 50% have always been unbelievers. {As always this is hard to believe, but the reader, especially if you have forgotten some of the main Bible messages of this book on REPORTS as well as "DEN OF THIEVES" and HIDEOUT, is reminded that almost all of God's people by far in the wilderness after a 40 year process of "departing" from the living God where not only denied access to the Promised Land but also to the eternal rest of heaven. {Read the book of Hebrews as the Falling Away is as big a part of it as Christ as Priest, no doubt one reason that so many repugnant to this message from God on the background of the Great Apostasy, deny Paul as the author. That is, they wish to accept the comforting messages of books like Ephesians and Philippians, the other of the 14 letters written by God through Paul, but not this one as it goes so counter to what they want to be believe about both The Security of the Believer and what will happen to most church members during the final Great Falling Away which must, and will inevitably come, before the Second Coming. (II Thessalonians) The message and chapters in this book on "for believing" have been addressed primarily to those 50% that are church members,

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although unbelief is unbelief where it is among those church members who went through the "to believe" process but also then through the "depart from the living God" process of Hebrews 3:7.

1. Once again, salvation is a two step process; and this is true even based on the most fundamental scriptures and books of salvation and believing, John 20:30,31 and the Gospel of John. Like in these verses, recall the statement of the very purpose for which the Apostle John wrote John: (1) in order that humanity might "believe", the "to believe" process of faith, that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and (2) "for believing", in order that "believing they may have everlasting life."

2. The whole tenor and statements of the New Testament is that there must be continuation in faith for it to be saving faith in such verses as (1) work out your salvation with fear and trembling, (2) beware brethren (church members and Christians} lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God (Hebrews 3:7); (3) you will be saved if you continue to the end, Jesus said in Matthew 24; and (4) so on and on through many more. Please read the SunGrist Ebook *SNATCHING, STUMBLING, AND THE FALLING AWAY* which is a "reconciliation of the Security of Believer with the Falling Away based on the parable from Jesus of the Seed and the Sower.

3. The proper learning of Christ, the opposite of what the world is doing and how they are live, is the sure cure to the disintegration of personality like other Gentiles, that Paul elaborates on in Ephesians 4. No CEO, government official, religious leader, pastor, deacon, or church members and average citizen could possible practice this greed that leads to personality disintegration and "strong delusion" who: (1) Practices Jesus teaching that "it is more blessed to give than to receive"; and (2) does not covet any possession or money of his American neighbors; and (3) loves his American neighbors, the people in the land, more than himself, and loves God with all the heart, mind, and soul.

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