

The Falling Away
and Christ's Second
Coming

The Falling Away and Christ's Second Coming

by Robert G. Theophilus

THIS BOOKLET IS NOT TO BE SOLD. The information provided is for the benefit of former members of the congregations of the Worldwide Church of God (WCG), and of current and prospective members of God's Church.

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After the death of Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong (HWA) the Pastor General of the Worldwide Church of God (WCG) and the destruction of the WCG by false prophets, it was thought that this event was the fulfillment of 2Thess 2: 2. That it was the falling away prophesied in that verse and that the religious leader responsible for changing the WCG's doctrines was the man of sin, the son of perdition. Who is the man of sin and son of perdition and would he be sitting in God's Church?

Please Note: All comments in brackets [] or in parentheses () as well as highlighted text (bolded and/or in blue) are from the author of this study. Bible quotations are in maroon.

I think it is essential to clarify the question of the “Holy Spirit” before we begin this study. If we say that who or what is the “Holy Spirit” is the question that needs to be answered, we are starting from the assumption that there exists such a being as the Holy Spirit and that it is a separate and distinct being from God and the Word. The question which should be asked is who are the beings the Bible tell us are holy, whose composition is spirit and who have existed eternally? Either the Bible plainly tells us who are the separate and distinct beings that existed from all eternity who created all things (spirit beings and the material universe) or we have no way of getting an answer to our question.

The Holy Spirits of the God Family

The Bible tells us in Gen 1:1 that:

Gen 1:1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

The Hebrew word translated “God” is “Eloheem” which is the plural form of “Eloah which means “God”. The word “Eloheem” refers to “gods.” It is a uniplural noun like family, group, team, etc. In the beginning, there was therefore more than one God being in existence but how many were there?

Joh 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Joh 1:2 The same was in the beginning with God.

Joh 1:3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

In the beginning when God created the heaven and the earth there was God and there was another being with God who was also God, the Word. How can these two beings both be God; isn't that impossible?

The word God indicates the kind of existence of these 2 beings: their nature is to be God in the same way that all human beings have the same human nature. However, having the same nature does not mean that all human beings constitute a single being; indeed, they are all separate and distinct beings with their own personalities. God and the Word have in common the same nature or, level and type of existence, but they are separate and distinct beings just like all human beings who have the same human nature are separate and distinct beings.

God the Father

We read in the Bible that God became a father when the Word became flesh (Php 2:5-8) by being born of woman after having been conceived in the virgin Mary by the holy spirit being called God (Luke 1:35). God from that point on became God the Father and the Word, who was born as the flesh-and-blood Jesus of Nazareth became God's Son or the Son of God. He was both fully God (his father was God and fully human (his mother was the virgin Mary).

Jesus was God the Father's only begotten son at the time when He was conceived in Mary's womb but He was not to be the only one begotten of the Father. God the Father is the holy spirit being in the Godhead that calls men to salvation.

Joh 6:44 No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.

Joh 6:65 And he said, Therefore said I unto you, that no man can come unto me, except it were given unto him of my Father.

Joh 18:9 That the saying might be fulfilled, which he spake, Of them which thou [God the Father] gavest me have I lost none.

1Pe 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

God the Word and Spokesman

The Bible term for being called is to be spiritually begotten by God the Father (1Pe 1:3). When we are begotten, we become a spiritual embryo that can be born again as a glorified spirit being with eternal life. Those begotten of the holy spirit God the Father who follow their calling are then able to come to the holy spirit being called the Word and Spokesman (John 6:44; 65; 18:9) who then teaches them. The glorified Jesus-Christ as God the Father's Word and Spokesman is the holy spirit being that works in the minds of God the Father's called and chosen ones.

Joh 7:39 (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

Jesus had to first be glorified for it to be possible for Christians to have access to the holy spirit called the Word and Spokesman because the glorified Christ is the holy spirit being who works in the minds of God's saints (John 14:17) in the same way that Satan is the evil spirit that works in the minds of the children of disobedience (Eph2:2).

Joh 14:17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he [I,Christ] dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. [On the day of Pentecost, it would be in them and in all true Christians.]

Eph 2:2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, [Satan] the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

The holy spirit God the Father calls men and those who follow their calling are then taught by the holy spirit called the Word and God the Father's Spokesman.

Joh 14:26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

The Holy Ghost

The expression "Holy Ghost" used in the Bible is in error as there

are no ghosts in the Godhead but rather 2 beings that are holy (John 17:11; Isa 6:3) and spirit (John 4:24).

Joh 17:11 And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are.

Isa 6:3 And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.

Joh 4:24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

These 2 God beings who are holy and spirit are the holy spirit beings of the God family who existed in the beginning at the creation of all things.

Joh 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Joh 1:2 The same was in the beginning with God.

Joh 1:3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

And, the Word who was with God is before all things i.e., nothing existed before He created them whether made of spirit or matter.

Col 1:15 [Christ] Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature:

Col 1:16 For by him [the Word who became Jesus-Christ] were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:

Col 1:17 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

In the beginning before anything either physical or spiritual was created, there was God and the Word who existed before all things and no other being is mentioned as having existed with them. There is no biblical evidence that there ever existed a third, separate and distinct personage in the Godhead called the "Holy Spirit" who dwelt in eternity with God and the Word.

God is a Family

Throughout the Bible we can find many verses which clearly indicates the existence of family relations between God and the Word and God's called, chosen and faithful.

Mat 11:27 All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him.

Mat 12:50 For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother.

Joh 20:17 Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God.

God is clearly a family in which many can be ultimately born again by a resurrection from the dead to eternal, glorified spirit life in God's Kingdom.

Rom 8:29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he [God's Son] might be the firstborn among many brethren.

Col 1:18 And he [the glorified Christ] is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.

Christ was the first to be born again by a resurrection from the dead to be followed by many brethren.

Bible Writing Convention

The practice in the Bible has been to simply use the expression "the Holy Spirit" without indicating which God personage in the Godhead the expression represents. Over time, because of this practice, just about everybody has come to believe that the Holy Spirit is a separate and distinct God being in the Godhead but, there is no single verse or group of verses in the Bible that prove the existence of such a third being in the Godhead. The words

“holy” and “spirit” are adjectives that describe the nature of God the Father and of God the Word i.e., they are holy beings made of spirit.

Whenever we encounter the expressions the “Holy Spirit” or simply the “Holy Spirit” in the Bible we must look at the context to determine of which holy spirit being of the Godhead the Bible is talking about: the holy spirit, God the Father or the holy spirit, the Word and Spokesman.

The Word is the holy spirit being in the Godhead who carries out the instructions and wishes of the holy spirit, God. He is the faithful son who seeks to do his father’s will in all things. He is the member of the God family that did the work of creating the heaven and the earth, who ruled over ancient Israel through Moses and his human successors, He is the one who became a man who suffered and died to be God the Father’s perfect sacrifice for sin and make the salvation of mankind possible, etc. and He came to reveal the Father to those who follow the Father’s calling.

Making Things Clearer

In this study, when referring to God’s spirit who, depending on the circumstances can be the holy spirit personage called God the Father or the holy spirit personage called God the Word and Spokesman, I will not capitalize either of the adjectives “holy” and “spirit”. This is in order to not perpetuate the false impression in the minds of readers that there is a 3rd being in the Godhead called the “Holy Spirit.” Instead, I will refer to either of the holy spirits in the God family as being God’s spirit without capitalizing the word “spirit” to make it plain that we are not referring to a third God being in the God family called the “Holy Spirit” but to one of the 2 God beings in the Godhead.

God’s family is presently made up of 2 holy spirit beings to which are to be added thousands and possibly millions of other holy spirit beings when God’s plan of salvation for mankind has reached its end. The saints that endure in the faith until the end of their natural human life, will be resurrected as individual holy spirit beings in God’s Kingdom when it is established.

There are two studies which you can read regarding what is the “Holy Spirit” and decide for yourself in light of the Bible-based evidence offered if such a being exists in the Godhead. These studies are: [What is the Holy Spirit? Cliff Notes Version](#) and [Who or What is the Holy Spirit?](#)

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For a time, after the WCG ceased to exist and several new churches of God were created, there was much talk to the effect that HWA's own chosen successor might be the man of sin and son of perdition mentioned in 2Th 2. This would be Mr. Joseph Tkach. For those of you who are not familiar with 2Th 2, a full analysis will be done of it in this study, so keep reading.

Please be aware that for you to understand this study it will be necessary for you to follow the links provided to other studies posted on this web site where detailed explanations are given of important topics that will be mentioned in support of the points made in this study. Making the detailed explanations given in these other studies a part of this study would turn this document into a book.

Some of you may already be familiar with the content of some of the studies that will be referenced and some of you may not. Some work will be required from most of you to get in your mind the full background picture you need to correctly understand the points that will be made in this study.

I think the best way of beginning this study is to go through the whole second chapter of 2 Thessalonians so as to get an overview of what is being discussed and then we can do a verse by verse analysis.

2 Thessalonians 2

2Th 2:1 Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him,

2Th 2:2 That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that **the day of Christ is at hand**.

2Th 2:3 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;

2Th 2:4 Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that **he as God sitteth in the temple of God**, shewing himself that he is God.

2Th 2:5 Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things?

2Th 2:6 And now ye know **what withholdeth** that he might be **revealed in his time**.

2Th 2:7 For **the mystery of iniquity** doth already work: only **he** who now letteth will let, until **he** be taken out of the way.

2Th 2:8 And then shall **that Wicked be revealed**, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:

2Th 2:9 Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with **all power and signs and lying wonders**,

2Th 2:10 And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

2Th 2:11 And for this cause God shall send them **strong delusion**, that they should believe a lie:

2Th 2:12 That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

Now let's review what were the teachings of the Worldwide Church of God (WCG) under Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong (HWA), its Pastor General regarding 2Th 2.

The Background

It was WCG doctrine that when the falling away mentioned in 2Th 2 would occur, Christ's 2nd Coming would soon follow as it was considered that the day of Christ mentioned in 2Th 2:2 was the day of the Lord of the book of Revelation (Rev1: 10).

2Th 2:2 That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that [the day of Christ](#) is at hand.

It was also preached in the WCG that the man of sin and son of perdition mentioned in 2Th 2:3 would be someone who would arise in God's Church (2Th 2:4) which is God's temple.

2Th 2:3 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](#);

2Th 2:4 Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that [he as God sitteth in the temple of God](#), shewing himself that he is God.

This man of sin would be in God's Church and cause a falling away (2Th 2:3) as 2Th 2: 4 says He sits in God's temple (God's Church).

When HWA began to be in failing health and before he died, he chose the man who would replace him as Pastor General of the WCG, Mr. Joseph Tkach. Initially, there weren't any changes made to the WCG's doctrine but this didn't last. Changes were gradually introduced which progressively undid HWA's teachings. People then started thinking that HWA's successor was the man of sin and son of perdition mentioned in 2Th 2:3. It wasn't said outright but rather suggested as being a possibility.

HWA's successor died and this put an end to the theory that he was the man of sin though he certainly was one of the main driving force in the destruction of the doctrines of the WCG. After his death, his son completed the process. The WCG became a main-line Christian church and changed its name to Grace Communion International.

During this chaotic period of radical doctrinal change, there arose

several new “true” churches of God and WCG members were faced with the challenge of trying to sort out which, if any of them, was God’s one true Church. Many, not all, of ex-WCG members found their way into one of these new churches of God. Some abandoned all religion being convinced they had been duped, some sought out groups to fellowship with on the internet, some stayed home and studied, and some formed small study groups which usually fell apart as division set in among their members.

Basically, what now exists is many who have become members of one of the several new churches of God even though they may disagree more or less with their teachings but with whom they are staying as for them, God’s Church is a visible, organization of men who gave itself the commission to preach the Gospel to the world and the authority to appoint men as evangelists, preachers, teacher, elders and deacons.

THEY ARE FIRMLY CONVINCED THAT GOD’S CHURCH IS A PHYSICAL ORGANIZATION AND THAT TO BE SAVED, THEY HAVE TO BE PART OF A GROUP WITH THE WORDS “CHURCH OF GOD” SOMEWHERE IN THE NAME OF ITS ORGANIZATION.

Even the ministers of these different churches of God who supposedly have a much better understanding of the Bible than regular members, are telling those that are staying home that they have to become part of one of the several new churches of God; their own or someone else’s, even if they are not all preaching the same things, it doesn’t matter. For all of them, God’s church is a physical organization that one has to belong to, to be saved. They don’t all believe and preach the same things but they do have the words “church of God” somewhere in the title of their organization and that effectively makes them a true church of God as far as they are concerned.

HWA, whom they say had the truth, and to whom they say they are being faithful, always said that God’s Church was **first and foremost** SPIRITUAL and that according to the Bible, it was to be a LITTLE FLOCK. This is why HWA felt the need, every now and then, to explain to his followers that the reason why the WCG was a large, multi-million dollar PHYSICAL organization was because God had allowed such a large and wealthy, visible-to-the-world organization to exist to make possible the preaching of the Gospel to the world in fulfillment of Mat 24:14.

Mat 24:14 And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.

HWA said he was God's own specially-chosen apostle raised up in the end time to preach the Gospel to the world before the end and the coming in power and glory of Jesus-Christ to establish the Kingdom of God over the nations of the world.

Based on HWA's reasoning as to why the WCG came into existence and his declaration in his last book "The Mystery of the Ages" that the Gospel had been preached to the world then it would logically follow that God's Church after his death would go back to being a "little flock."

But no, all the several new churches of God led by former ministers of the WCG are all trying to attain the level of growth and wealth achieved by the WCG. They say Christ has not yet returned so they have to keep on preaching the Gospel of Christ coming to establish God's kingdom on the earth. By the way, this is not the Gospel message Christ brought to mankind from God the Father.

1Co 15:50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit [\[become part of\]](#) the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.

Flesh-and-blood men cannot become part of God's Kingdom while still flesh-and-blood human beings.

Men have to be born again to immortal spirit life by a resurrection from the dead to become part of or inherit God's Kingdom.

Joh 3:3 Jesus answered and said unto him, **Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.**

All this and more is explained in the following study: [What Good News did Jesus Proclaim?](#)

These self-appointed ministers of God of these several new churches of God all understand God's Church as being a physical organization. They also all have decided on their own, it wasn't God's doing, that they are the inheritors of the Great Commission given to the apostles by Christ of preaching the Gospel to every creature in all nations.

Mar 16:15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

Mat 24:14 And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.

Please see the following study which explains how the Gospel will be preached to every creature in all nations before the end comes: [Was the Gospel Ever Suppressed?](#) The Gospel has to be preached to all creature or men in all nations speaking thousands of different languages including those who died in the first 4,000 years of the existence of humanity who never heard the Gospel as it wasn't preached until Christ's First Coming to Israel.

Mar 1:15 And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.

Rom 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

All of mankind will have to have been given the opportunity to hear the Gospel before the end of God's plan of salvation as it is the power of God unto salvation.

While waiting for Christ's Second Coming to occur, these so-called churches of God are building custom made multi-million dollar buildings on large professionally landscaped properties. There's even an instance of one of these groups' pastor general having bought, with his followers' money, an executive jet costing 12 to 20 million dollars, which is hugely expensive to operate, for him to do "The Work."

Christ did not have anywhere to lay His head but the leaders of these churches are living like royalty and expect to be treated as such by their followers.

Mat 8:19 And a certain scribe came, and said unto him, Master, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest.

Mat 8:20 And Jesus saith unto him, The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head.

They are not who they pretend to be and how they treat their fol-

lowers, their abuse and misuse of money and their great love of money should be proof enough that they are ravenous wolves in sheep's clothing preaching for filthy lucre.

Mat 7:15 Beware of false prophets, which come to you [truly converted Christians who ARE God's Church] in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. [They have a great appetite and desire for power, fame, and money.]

2Pe 2:1 But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, [the truly converted of God's Church] who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

2Pe 2:3 And through covetousness [their great desire for money] shall they with feigned words [pretend to believe the same things you believe] make merchandise of you: [fool you so they can use you to enrich themselves] whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not.

The several WCG offshoot churches of God all claim their followers have to pay tithes to support them in doing the work of preaching the Gospel to the world. It would seem a lot of the "preaching-the-Gospel-to-the-world" money finds its way to other uses which don't seem all that much related to preaching the Gospel. When Christ sent His disciples to preach He totally deemphasized the need for money.

Mat 10:9 Provide neither gold, nor silver, nor brass in your purses,

Mat 10:10 Nor scrip for your journey, neither two coats, neither shoes, nor yet staves: for the workman is worthy of his meat.

Why would those who say they are continuing the work of the apostles be in such great need of money and be building multi-million dollar campuses and in one instance buying an executive jet when the end is so near according to what they preach? If the success of God's plan of salvation so much depended on money wouldn't Christ have told His disciples to be sure to bring a lot of money with them so they could do the work given them?

Does tithing continue to be a requirement in New Testament times? Please see the following studies for detailed and fully Bible-based explanations of how the OT tithing system worked and whether it continues into the NT era of God's Church: [Will a Man Rob God?](#) and [Tithing in New Testament Times](#)

Let's now start our review of 2Th 2.

Detailed Review of 2Th 2

We'll now again go through 2Th 2 but this time with detailed explanations being provided.

2nd Th2:1 Now we [\[the apostles\]](#) beseech [\[beg\]](#) you, brethren, by [\[regarding\]](#) the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by [\[regarding\]](#) our gathering together unto him, [\[the time of God's saints resurrection, or transformation if then alive, to immortal spirit life is when Christ will gather God's faithful saints\]](#)

2Th 2:2 That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that [the day of Christ](#) is at hand.

In their days, some were circulating letters which they said came from the apostles and which supposedly stated that the time of the gathering of God's faithful to Christ was about to happen; that it was at hand. Paul tells them not to pay attention to these false letters as the day of Christ would not happen until there be a falling away, and the man of sin and son of perdition be revealed.

What is the [day of Christ](#) in 2Th 2:2 is something that is critical to our correctly understanding how God is administering His master plan of salvation for mankind and for us to correctly understand what is being said in 2Th 2. More to come on this later in this study.

Let's continue our analysis of 2Th 2.

2Th 2:3 Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day [\[the day of Christ\]](#) shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;

Before the "day of Christ" takes place 2 related events are to occur: first, a falling away and second, the [revealing](#) of someone

who is a man of sin and son of perdition.

To get more information on who that man may be we have to go to the next verse.

2Th 2:4 Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he **as** God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.

This man is in opposition to everything which is of God. He sees himself as being God sitting in God's temple (God's Church) and claims to be God's representative on the earth.

A first point of importance for us to notice and remember is that it is impossible for this man of sin and son of perdition, whoever he may be, to sit in God's temple which is God's Church. God's Church consists ONLY of those called and chosen by God, and who ARE REMAINING FAITHFUL. If anyone who has been given to know the truth abandons it, opposes himself to it or fight against it, that person ceases to be part of God's Church. The man of sin opposes everything that is called God and worshipped and therefore CANNOT BE PART OF GOD'S CHURCH.

This great false prophet sees himself as the spiritual leader of a church which he believes to be God's Church. The leader of this great, false religious system has replaced God in the lives of men and rules as though he were God. This is why he has given himself the authority to change such things as which day is the Sabbath (it's Saturday not Sunday), when the days start and end, (at sunset not in the middle of the night at 12:00 AM) the time when the year starts, (March/April not in the middle of the winter in January) the number of months in a year, [there's 13 lunar months), etc.

Before we go on, I have to explain what is "falling away" and what will be required for the man of sin to be revealed as the leader of a great false religion claiming to be God's true church.

Falling Away

To fall away, is to lose one's salvation. It is something that happens on a continuing basis as the truly converted, for one reason or another, abandon their conversion and go back into the world. It is not a group process. Also, the only ones who can fall away are

those who are members of God's Church. They are the only ones who have the truth. The world doesn't have the truth and therefore, cannot fall away from truth it doesn't have. God's Church is all those called, chosen and faithful and they are found all over the world ([God's Church is Spiritual](#)). They are mostly by themselves as their conversion is not something that can be seen by others; it is something which occurs in their mind.

This is also why God's Church will not be found in large groups highly visible to the world. There are no large groups of truly converted Christians who suddenly could fall away and be the falling away mentioned in 2Th 2:3. You, as a truly converted Christian, know and understand how hard it is to find anyone who is a truly converted Christian. Personally speaking, my neighbors and friends have no idea whatsoever of my religious beliefs or that I even have any interest whatsoever in religion. God's truly converted live invisibly among the unconverted of the world.

Falling away is not a one-time, mass departure from the truth. Truly converted men have been falling away from the truth since the day of Pentecost and this process will continue until the end of the Last Great Day.

FALLING AWAY IS THE TIME WHEN A TRULY CONVERTED CHRISTIAN LOSES HIS SALVATION.

However, the making of the decision that one has fallen away is something that can only be made by God and there is a time coming when God will make a final judgment as to who are those who lose their salvation and who are those who are saved. It is not a judgment that can be made by men.

Rom 14:4 Who art thou that [judgest another man's servant?](#) to his own master he standeth or falleth. Yea, he shall be holden up: for God is able to make him stand.

[Joh 5:22 For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son: \[Christ\]](#)

No man can judge another man as having fallen away no matter how things may look. God looks on the heart which is something we can't do.

WHETHER SOMEONE HAS FALLEN AWAY OR NOT IS A JUDGMENT THAT WILL BE MADE BY CHRIST AND WHICH ONLY HE CAN MAKE.

All judgment has been committed to Christ by God the Father.

Not being part of organizations of men calling themselves "church

of God" or being expelled from them in no way means that one has lost his salvation. God the Father is presently calling men all over the world and those who follow their calling are being taught by God the Word and if remaining faithful will become part of God's Kingdom by a resurrection from the dead at either Christ's Second Coming or in the Great White Throne Judgment if their calling is after Christ's 2nd Coming.

The successful administration of God's plan of salvation does not depend on organizations of men.

Christ's 2nd Coming

Another point which greatly impacts on our ability to correctly understand what is being said in 2Th 2 is knowing to whom and why Christ is coming a second time.

The man of sin and son of perdition will not be revealed to the world as the great spiritual fraud that he is until the event recorded in 2Th 2: 8 occurs.

2Th 2:8 And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom [the Lord](#) shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with [the brightness of his coming](#):

Will Christ by His Second Coming reveal to the unconverted world who is the leader of a great false religion which deceives it into thinking it is God's true church?

According to the teachings of the WCG and of the many WCG offshoot churches of God, Christ is coming back to take over the governments of this world and to establish God's kingdom on the earth.

The following studies explain to whom and why Christ is coming a second time. ([When Will God's Government Exist on the Earth?](#)) and ([Mass Conversion of the Nations During the Millennium?](#)) It's best for you to understand what will then happen, that you go through these 2 studies as it would make this study too long for me to explain it all here.

However, so you can follow along with what is being said in this study, I'll provide a brief explanation without giving all the applicable Scriptures which you will get in the studies mentioned.

According to your Bible, the world will see the signs of Christ's 2nd Coming but they will not understand what is going on. They will be terrified and will ask for the rocks and the mountains to fall on them and hide them.

Rev 6:15 And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains;

Rev 6:16 And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb:

At that time, the world will not be converted and not being converted, they don't know God, or Christ the Lamb of God, and for that matter, no one living today has ever seen God or Christ nor will any human being ever see them in their glorified state.

Moses wanted to see who it was that was talking to him and here is what God told him.

Exo 33:18 And he [Moses] said, I beseech thee [beg you], shew me thy glory.

Exo 33:19 And he said, I will make all my goodness pass before thee, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD before thee; and will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will shew mercy on whom I will shew mercy.

Exo 33:20 And he said, **Thou canst not see my face: for there shall no man see me, and live.**

You can read the whole passage on your own if you are interested in knowing more of the context.

With this knowledge in mind, we can know that though Rev 6:16 is talking about men being terrified from seeing the faces of God and the Lamb in their glorified state, no one can see them and live. Furthermore, no one knows what they look like in their non-glorified state. God the Father is generally imagined as an elderly man with a big white beard and wearing a Roman tunic which is something similar to what we today see Arab men living in the Middle East wearing. And Christ in people's minds is seen as a tall skinny man with long hair, a beard and feminine looking hands also wearing a tunic.

Be it as it may, no one in the last 1,900 years have ever seen the face of God or of Christ in their glorified or in their non-glorified state, so how will they recognize something they have never seen as been God and the Lamb of God. The Bible tells us what it is they will see but will they be terrified because they don't understand the meaning of these very strange events. The world, but God's called and chosen ones, has no idea that God could ever be anything but good and that no harm would ever come from Him upon mankind.

Mankind will be terrified at seeing the signs in the heaven but they will not understand the spiritual aspect of what is going on; rather, they will fear that destruction is soon to come upon them because of the great catastrophes simultaneously affecting the earth when these signs appear in the sky.

This is what they will experience in that day.

Rev 6:12 And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was [a great earthquake](#); and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, [\[the sun stopped giving light\]](#) and the moon became as blood; [\[the moon took on a red color which is not its usual color\]](#)

Rev 6:13 And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, [\[a big meteor shower will be seen in the sky; the smallest star is bigger than the whole earth\]](#) even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind.

Rev 6:14 And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. [\[A very great disruption of the environment will occurs like has never happened before.\]](#)

We, if we lived during the time when these events occur, even with the spiritual knowledge that we have, we probably would also be terrified.

Many more events will occur that will be very destructive to the earth's environment, land, forests, oceans, rivers, lakes, fishes, etc. These are the events occurring after the opening of the 7th seal of the book of Revelation: the 7 trumpet plagues, and the 7 vial plagues. Read through the verses starting with Rev 8:6 and you will see all the destruction that will take place.

There will be a very great amount of death and destruction that will accompany Christ's 2nd Coming. Please see the following study for more detail: [Christ's 2nd Coming and the Millennium](#)

The Day of Christ

In 2Thes 2:2 Paul is talking about the day of Christ.

2Th 2:2 That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that [the day of Christ](#) is at hand.

In the WCG under HWA, this day was considered to be the time of Christ's Second Coming. The belief was that Christ at His Second Coming would take over the governments of the world and establish God's Kingdom on the earth over flesh-and-blood human beings who supposedly would all, except a few very stubborn individuals, follow their calling when God calls all men at the beginning of the Millennium.

If this were to occur as HWA thought, then it would be the time when men would know that the great false Christian religion many in the world have been following was false.

But, this understanding of what happens at Christ's Second Coming is not supported by your Bible. Christ at His Second Coming is returning to the same place and for the same people for whom He came the first time: the physical nation of Israel. He is not coming to change the world as is widely believed. This is explained in detail in the following studies: [Mass Conversion of the Nations During the Millennium?](#) and [When Will God's Government Exist on the Earth?](#) Your Bible says that on that day, the day of Christ's Second Coming, His feet will stand upon the Mount of Olives which is in Jerusalem.

Zec 14:1 Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee.

Zec 14:2 For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city.

Zec 14:3 Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight

against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle.

Zec 14:4 And **his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives**, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south.

And in the book of Acts we read:

Act 1:9 And when he **[Christ]** had spoken these things, while they **[His disciples]** beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.

Act 1:10 And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel;

Act 1:11 Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

Christ is come back to Israel in the same way as they, the disciples who are Israelites, had seen Him go into heaven. And, in Act 3:19-20 we are given more information that confirms this.

Peter had just healed a man lame from birth who was at the gate of the temple in Jerusalem and a crowd had gathered around him.

Act 3:17 And now, brethren, **[fellow Israelites]** I wot **[know]** that through ignorance ye did it, **[rejected Christ and had Him put to death]** as did also your rulers.

Act 3:18 But those things, which God before had shewed by the mouth of all his prophets, that Christ should suffer, he hath so fulfilled.

In other words, these are things that had to occur that the prophecies made about Christ should be accomplished.

Act 3:19 Repent ye **[Israelites]** therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the **presence of the Lord**;

When Peter spoke these words, Christ had ascended to His Fa-

ther. Peter tells them that Christ will again come to them, Israel. When Christ comes back to them it will be the times of refreshing. It will be a time when Israel will be taught the truth given their forefathers by the prophets God had sent them but which they never really followed as they were never converted.

Mal 4:4 Remember ye the law of Moses my servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments.

However, at Christ's 2nd Coming to Israel, it will be the time when they will all be called and those who repent and become converted will have their sins forgiven.

Act 3:20 And he [God the Father] shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: [Israel]

Could anything be any clearer. Peter was in Israel talking to Israelites. When Christ comes to them a second time, it will be the times of refreshing; it will be the time when He will make the New Covenant with Israel.

Jer 31:31 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah:

Heb 12:24 And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.

Christ at His Second Coming is coming to the nation of Israel resettled in the original Promised Land.

Eze 11:17 Therefore say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; I will even gather you from the people, and assemble you out of the countries where ye have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel.

Eze 20:34 And I will bring you out from the people, and will gather you out of the countries wherein ye are scattered, with a mighty hand, and with a stretched out arm, and with fury poured out.

It will be the time of the conversion of Israel spoken of by Paul in Rom 11.

Rom 11:25 For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Isra-

el, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.

Rom 11:26 And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: [Israel]

Rom 11:27 For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins.

It will be the time when Christ completes His ministry to Israel which was to last 7 years (a week) but which was cut off in the middle of the week by His death. The middle of the week is 3 1/2 days which in fulfillment is 3 1/2 years so there remains another 3 1/2 years for Christ to complete His ministry to the physical nation of Israel.

Dan 9:27 And he [the Messiah or Christ] shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.

Christ at His Second Coming is not coming to the world, He is coming to the nation of Israel returned from its captivity among the Gentiles and resettled in the original Promised Land.

Therefore, the "day of Christ" mentioned in 2 Th2: 2 is not referring to Christ's Second Coming to the world. According to 2Th 2:3 the day of Christ will not come until there be a falling away AND the man of sin be revealed.

2Th 2:3 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;

The man of sin and son of perdition can only be revealed to the converted. 2Th 2:3 plainly says the knowledge of who is the man of sin will be by revelation and the truth is given by God by revelation only to those who are His called, chosen and faithful ones, truly converted Christians.

During the Millennium, following Christ's Second Coming, all of mankind will be called; however, being called and becoming converted are not the same thing.

Christ tells us in plain and easy to understand verses that of the

many that are called it is the few who are chosen. They are not chosen because they don't follow their calling.

Mat 22:14 For many are called, but few are chosen.

And of the few that are chosen, it is the few who enter in by the strait gate and the narrow way that leads to life.

Mat 7:13 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat:

Mat 7:14 Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

It is the few who will ultimately be saved.

This means that Christ's Second Coming is not the time when the man of sin will be revealed as most of the world will remain unconverted though they will all have been called.

The day when those who lose their salvation and those who are saved are gathered unto the Lord, which is to say, they become part of God's Kingdom is at the time of the Great White Throne Judgment (GWTJ) at the end of the Last Great Day (LGD).

2Pe 3:7 But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.

The current heavens and earth are being kept in existence by God until the time comes for the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. When are ungodly men lost? It will be at the time of the GWTJ at the end of the Last Great Day.

2Pe 3:10 But the day of the Lord [or day of Christ; Christ is also Lord so the day of Christ is also the day of the Lord] will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens [the sky we see in the daytime and the stars (the universe)] shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

This is not the time of the Great Tribulation. The Great Tribulation is not the time of perdition of ungodly men (dying the second death in the Lake of Fire) nor is it a time when the heavens and the

earth shall pass away with a great noise, the elements burn with fervent heat and the earth also.

The day of Christ or the day of the Lord of 2Th 2: 2 is the time of the GWTJ when the wicked are burnt up in the Lake of Fire which grows to encompass the heavens and the earth and burns them up.

Rev 20:11 And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.

Who is sitting on this great white throne?

Joh 5:22 For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son:

Mat 28:18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, **All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.**

Christ, the Lord is the one sitting on the great white throne and who will judge (pass sentence) on all of mankind except those who were resurrected at the time of His Second Coming.

All those who have died since Adam and Eve who lost their salvation will rise up in the resurrection of the Last Great Day (LGD) to receive their sentence or penalty for not having followed their calling or having abandoned it. For a full explanation of what happens during the LGD I would refer you to the following study: [What Happens During the Last Great Day?](#)

Rev 20:12 And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

Rev 20:13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.

The GWTJ is also the time when God's saints receives their reward which in 2Th 2: 1 is stated as ".....our gathering together unto him [\[Christ\]](#)."

The time when all men will be judged by Christ as having fallen

away or not is in the Great White Throne Judgment at the end of the Last Great Day. HE IS THE ONLY ONE, not any men or organization of men, who can make a final judgment as to whether someone has fallen away or not.

The practical implication of knowing this is that not being part of organizations of men claiming to be God's Church or being expelled from them, in no way means that you have lost your salvation. Only God can decide that and the decision will be rendered in the Great White Throne Judgment by Christ to whom God the Father has committed all judgment. In this life, no man has the authority from God to pronounce someone as having fallen away.

The GWTJ is the time, and the only time, when the falling away mentioned in 2Th 2:3 will and can occur.

2Th 2:3 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;

The Revelation of the Man of Sin and Son of Perdition

As has been already shown, Christ at His Second Coming is not coming to the world to establish God's Kingdom on earth. He is coming a second time to Israel which He will gather from the nations where they had been scattered and who will be resettled in the original Promised Land.

Christ will come to them to make the New Covenant which is the time when Israel for the first time will be offered salvation.

Heb 8:8 For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a [new covenant](#) with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah:

Christ will not reveal to the world who is the man of sin and son of perdition at his Second Coming. He is not coming to, or for the world. There will be no worldwide awakening to the fact that there is a great false Christians religion which for thousands of years has been posing as God's Church and which is headed up by a great false prophet who thinks and acts as though he is God sitting in God's temple or Church.

All during the Millennium this great false religion and its leader will continue. All will be called during the Millennium but as we have seen it is the few who follow their calling and remain converted. This means that most of the world will remain unconverted during the Millennium and continue to be deceived.

This is why the Bible tells us that at the end of the Millennium there will be a very great number of people from the 4 quarters of the earth who are deceived. Their number will be as the sand of the sea, a very great multitude which no man would be able to count anymore than a man could count every grain of sand in the sea.

Rev 20:7 And when the thousand years are expired,
Satan shall be loosed out of his prison,

Rev 20:8 And shall go out to deceive the nations which
are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to
gather them together to battle: **the number of whom is as
the sand of the sea.**

The only ones who can be deceived by Satan are those who are not converted. They are those who were called and did not follow their calling and those who after having accepted their calling, abandoned it. Christ plainly tells us that the elect, God's called, chosen and faithful ones, cannot be deceived.

Mat 24:24 For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.

What will this great, uncountable and unconverted multitude which assembles right after the end of the Millennium do?

Rev 20:9 And they went up on the breadth of the earth,
and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the
beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heav-
en, and devoured them.

Israel since the beginning of the Millennium has been living in the original Promised Land following Christ's 2nd Coming and it has no army or walls to protect it. God is their protection. They are the people who were gathered out of the nations (Ez 38:12).

Eze 38:11 And thou shalt say, I will go up to the land of
unwalled villages; I will go to them that are at rest, that
dwell safely, all of them dwelling without walls, and hav-
ing neither bars nor gates,

Eze 38:12 To take a spoil, and to take a prey; to turn thine hand upon the desolate places that are now inhabited, and upon **the people that are gathered out of the nations, which have gotten cattle and goods, that dwell in the midst of the land.**

Israel has become a very rich nation. God said He would restore them as at the first which is to say as in the days of Solomon when Israel was at the peak of its glory when He brings them back from their captivity.

Jer 33:7 And I will cause the captivity of Judah and the captivity of Israel to return, and will build them, **as at the first.**

The great unconverted multitude who shortly after the end of the Millennium assembles and sets out to destroy Israel is **spiritual** Gog and Magog; they are spiritually deceived having lost their conversion.

They are not the **physical** nations of Gog and Magog who were destroyed at the beginning of the Millennium by God.

Eze 38:2 Son of man, set thy face against Gog, the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him,

Eze 38:14 Therefore, son of man, prophesy and say unto Gog, Thus saith the Lord GOD; In that day when my people of Israel dwelleth safely, shalt thou not know it?

Eze 38:15 And thou shalt come from thy place out of the north parts, thou, and many people with thee, all of them riding upon horses, a great company, and a mighty army:

Eze 38:16 And thou shalt come up against my people of Israel, as a cloud to cover the land; it shall be in the latter days, and I will bring thee against my land, that the heathen may know me, when I shall be sanctified in thee, O Gog, before their eyes.

Eze 38:17 Thus saith the Lord GOD; Art thou he of whom I have spoken in old time by my servants the prophets of Israel, which prophesied in those days many years that I would bring thee against them?

Eze 38:18 And it shall come to pass at the same time

when Gog shall come against the land of Israel, saith the Lord GOD, that my fury shall come up in my face.

Eze 38:19 For in my jealousy and in the fire of my wrath have I spoken, Surely in that day there shall be a great shaking in the land of Israel;

Eze 38:20 So that the fishes of the sea, and the fowls of the heaven, and the beasts of the field, and all creeping things that creep upon the earth, and all the men that are upon the face of the earth, shall shake at my presence, and the mountains shall be thrown down, and the steep places shall fall, and every wall shall fall to the ground.

Eze 38:21 And I will call for a sword against him throughout all my mountains, saith the Lord GOD: every man's sword shall be against his brother.

Eze 38:22 And I will plead against him with pestilence and with blood; and I will rain upon him, and upon his bands, and upon the many people that are with him, an overflowing rain, and great hailstones, fire, and brimstone.

How does God destroy spiritual Gog and Magog?

Rev 20:7 And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison,

Rev 20:8 And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, **Gog and Magog**, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea.

Rev 20:9 And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and **fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them.**

Paul had already explained it all to the Thessalonians and they should have known what were the events that needed to take place before the day of Christ would happen but they had forgotten what he had told them.

2Th 2:5 **Remember ye not**, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things?

So, basically, in the days of the apostles, the time when God saints

would be gathered unto the Lord is something that was very far into their future.

The gathering of God's saints unto God and the revelation of who is the man of sin and son of perdition will not happen until the time of the end of God's plan of salvation for mankind which occurs at the time of the GWTJ at the end of the LGD.

The Time of the Revelation of the Man of Sin

In the days of God's First Century Church and in ours, God's plan of salvation is continuing and for it to do so as intended by God. God Himself is preventing mankind from knowing who is the man of sin and son of perdition.

2Th 2: 6 And now ye know what withholdeth [prevents the man of sin from being exposed to the world as the great religious fraud that he is] that he [the man of sin] might be revealed in his time.

There is a time decided by God when the man of sin is to be revealed.

2Th 2: 7 For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: [[this great false religion was already at work in the days of the apostles, deceiving men about the truth of God through their false religious teachings] only he [God] who now letteth [allows this deception to continue] will let [which is to say, He will allow the spiritual deception over the nations to continue], until he [the man of sin and son of perdition] be taken out of the way [until the time comes for the man of sin, the son of perdition to be revealed as the spiritual fraud that he is and be ".... taken out of the way" which is to say, until he comes to his end.]

8 And then [at the time appointed by God] shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth [Christ does this at the time of the Great White Throne Judgment (GWTJ) at the end of the Last Great Day], and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: [CHRIST WILL COME AGAIN A 3RD TIME AT THE TIME OF THE GWTJ]

9 Even him, [the man of sin and son of perdition] whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, [This great false religion made possible by Satan who deceives the whole world (Rev 12:9) except the truly converted]

10 And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish [these are people in the world who have not yet been called and chosen and are therefore perishing because the time has not yet come for them to be called]; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. [because they have not yet been called and chosen.]

This great false religion headed up by the man of sin (there will have been several different men who will have led it through the ages), consists of those who have not yet been called and chosen. This great false church has been in existence since the days of the apostles and when 2Th 2 was written God's plan of salvation was still to continue for some 2,000 years. Those who from that time forward will be born are not yet called nor lost. They cannot be considered as being part of this great, false church. Until called, men have no love of the truth and though often not active participants in the physical organization that is this great, false church, spiritually speaking, they are perishing. We were all perishing until called. But, all will be called and given the opportunity to become part of God's spiritual nation or God's Church.

Let's continue our analysis of 2Th 2.

2Th 2: 11 And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie:

Until the time comes for this great religious impostor to be revealed God is sending strong delusion to those who are not being called and chosen so that they would continue to believe the lie that this man of sin is God's true representative on earth and that the religion and church he leads is God's one true Church to which all must belong to be saved. This great religious fraud is not to be revealed to the world until the time appointed by God which will be in the GWTJ.

12 That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

Since the day of Pentecost, God has been revealing who is the

man of sin and son of perdition to His called and chosen ones. They are the ones who believed the truth when it was offered to them at the time of their calling. Those who ultimately will be damned are those who did not follow their calling and those who abandoned it. They had pleasure in unrighteousness and are damned. They have lost the salvation offered them.

Recapitulation

Christ at His Second Coming is returning to Israel to complete His 7 year ministry and make the New Covenant with Israel. The world will not know that His Second Coming has occurred. All will have seen the signs accompanying His Second Coming but not being called, they will not understand their meaning.

Christ after His Second Coming will not be active in the world trying to bring the nations to repentance. He will not be revealing to the nations the existence of the man of sin and son of perdition who leads a great false Christian religion claiming to be God's Church.

God's church is not a visible-to-the world organization of men. God's church is spiritual. It is something that exists in the mind of those whom God the Father has called and chosen and who are remaining faithful. God chose them and is revealing spiritual truth to them through His Son, God the Word as they study His holy Bible. God's government is by God's law that God writes in their minds. Their teachers are God the Father while being called and God the Word once chosen. They are God's servants and God is the one they have to please; not men or any organization of men.

There are several studies on this site where all of this is explained at great length: [God's Church is Spiritual](#) [God's Church Today](#) [Who CAN Feed the Flock?](#) and [God's Church After its Scattering](#)

It would make this study overly long to repeat it all here. Please take the time to read them if you haven't already done so.

Final Words

The conditions established by God for the working out of His master plan of salvation will remain the same during the Millennium and during the Last Great Day. By the time of the end of God's plan of salvation all of mankind will have been subjected to the

very same conditions and requirements except for God preventing Satan from deceiving the world during the Millennium.

Rev 20:1 And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

Rev 20:2 And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,

Rev 20:3 And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, **that he should deceive the nations no more**, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.

Salvation is by grace through faith.

Eph 2:8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

And what is faith?

Heb 11:1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

God requires that His called and chosen one believe the spiritual truths revealed to them as they study their Bible.

God's holy Bible is the only sure source of truth truly converted Christians have; not men or organizations of men. Many of the truths it contains are things which we cannot prove with our physical senses such as the resurrection from the dead to immortal spirit life; the destruction of the current heavens and earth and the creation of new ones, that man is made of the dead dust of the ground and became a living air-breathing animal by a great miracle by which God gave life to dead, inorganic matter, the dust of the ground and the list goes on and on.

God will not do anything to reveal Himself to unconverted mankind. The man of sin and son of perdition and the great false church he leads will continue to be something that only God's called and chosen ones can know. It is not something the unconverted world could ever accept as being true.

The several and different Christian churches of this world all see themselves as being God's true Church and each others as being

false churches. Each one of them is hoping that one day all the other ones will see that it is the one true church.

Since the day of Pentecost until the end of the Last Great Day it will be the many that will be unconverted though everyone will have been called. Christ very plainly tells us that it is the few of those called who remain faithful.

God is a spirit and must be worship in spirit and in truth.

Joh 4:24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

God in NT times is not to be worshiped through participating in repetitive and symbolic ceremonies carried out by organizations of men. They worship God by applying in their lives as best they can the spiritual truths God is revealing to them as they study God's holy Bible.

God is working out His master plan of salvation by His spirit, the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman, His faithful son who obeys Him in all things.

Zec 4:6 Then he answered and spake unto me, saying,
This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying,
Not by might, nor by power, **but by my spirit**, saith the
LORD of hosts.

God the Word made flesh, Christ is the one by whom His plan of salvation was made sure by becoming the perfect sacrifice for sin. He is also the holy spirit by whom God the Father created the worlds, the heavens and the earth and the spirit world (Heb 1: 2), and to whom He has given all power and judgment

Heb 1:2 Hath in these last days spoken unto us by **his Son**, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, **by whom also he made the worlds**;

Joh 17:2 As thou [God the Father] hast given him [Christ, God the Word made flesh] power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him.

Joh 5:22 For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son:

The great false religion and the man of sin and son of perdition will

not be revealed to the unconverted world nor is there any need for God to do so. His plan of salvation is occurring wholly at the spiritual level which is to say by Him, God the Father, working in the minds of men when the time comes for them to be called and God the Word continuing the process if they follow their calling.

ONLY CHRIST CAN MAKE THE JUDGMENT THAT SOMEONE HAS FALLEN AWAY. Since no man can do so, it is impossible for any man to suddenly declare that for some reason or other, a falling away has occurred either of a group or of an individual.

The only time when those who departed from the faith over the centuries of God's plan of salvation will actually lose their salvation will be at the time of the GWTJ at the end of the LGD. Christ at his 3rd Coming will be sitting on a great white throne and He will sentence men who fell away to eternal death and those who remained faithful, to eternal life. Only Christ can make the decision that someone has fallen away.

Mat 25:31 When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:

Mat 25:32 And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:

Mat 25:33 And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.

Mat 25:34 Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

Rev 20:13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.

Rev 20:14 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

Rev 20:15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.