

“Because they received not the Love of the truth. 2 Thess 2:9

2 THESSALONIANS
LESSON 17
LOVE OF THE TRUTH: YOUR DEFENSE
AGAINST BEING DECEIVED

23 May 2014

A “**falling away first**” must precede the rise to power of the Antichrist. Not a reduction in the number of Christians or churches, but a reduction in the number of Christians who love the truth. There will still be plenty of mega-churches when the Antichrist shows up. Satan works in the churches, not in the world. He is making satanic Christians; Christians who mimic the attributes of Satan. As he exalted himself, he is teaching Christians to exalt themselves.

If you love the Lord, but you don't love the truth, you're going to buy into the DECEPTION being sold in churches today. The mystery of iniquity is that Christians call themselves Christians, but they have exalted themselves above God's truth. All of God's “*Thou shalt not's*” are overruled by “what I want to do.” The cure for that is to love the truth.

THE FALSE DOCTRINE OF THE “BORN AGAIN JESUS.”

Kenneth Hagan taught the false doctrine that Jesus' physical death did not atone for sins, but that He died a spiritual death in the fires of Hell and then had to be “born again.” “The Name of Jesus,” pgs. 29-31.

Fredrick K.C. Price taught the same thing. Ever-increasing faith message, June 1980.

Paul Billheimer taught the same thing. “Destined for the throne.”

Benny Hinn taught the same thing. “Our Position in Christ” video, part 1, tape number 254—on a TBN television program.

That's not taught in the Bible. That's another Jesus (2 Cor. 11:4). It's a mystery why people support such ministries.

Jesus said “**It is finished**” (John 19:30) while He was on the cross. That's Bible.

Kenneth Copeland often says, “*The Spirit of God spoke to me...*” and then he proceeds to lie and tell his congregation something that is not supported by Scripture and often cancels out what God wrote in the Bible. He taught that Jesus was “a twice-born man,” which makes Him the same as us. Therefore, any one of US could have paid for sins and saved the world just like Jesus did if we had known what Jesus knew.

That's another Jesus (The Bible doesn't teach that Jesus was born-again. He told Nicodemus “**Ye must be born again**” because Nicodemus was a sinner. Jesus wasn't a sinner. He was never under condemnation.

Note: in Colossians 1:18, the term “**Firstborn from the dead**” does not mean “born again.” It is a term of preeminence. Christ was the most important One to ever come up from the dead.

Note: “**only begotten**” doesn’t mean “reborn.” It refers to the unique virgin birth of Jesus Christ. Hebrews 10:5 says, “**A body hast thou prepared me.**” To “beget” means to procreate; to bring forth.

FIVE THINGS THAT SATAN WAS PROUD OF: (Ezekiel 28:12-19)

1. WISDOM/INTELLECT (vs. 12) _____
2. BEAUTY (vs. 12) _____
3. MUSICAL EXPERTISE/TALENT (vs. 13) _____
4. POSITION OF SERVICE (vs. 14) _____
5. WEALTH/STATUS (vs. 13, 18) _____

Modern day Christianity reinforces the message “You’re special, you’re superior.”

Good health, prosperity, success, private messages from God; these are all things promoted in these churches. These are all things designed to give you a heightened sense of pride. It encourages people to exalt themselves above the Word of God.

There’s nothing obvious about these tactics. It’s very subtle. Note that “**iniquity was found IN thee**” (Ezek. 28:15). There were no outward indications of evil. Something went wrong on the inside.

THE MYSTERY OF LUCIFER’S FALL (Isaiah 14:12-17)

People will look upon Satan in wonder when he is brought down to the sides of the pit (Hell). By all outward appearances, he was a good guy. But inside, in his heart, he loved himself more than he loved the Word of God.

We need to put the Word of God above ourselves, our family, and our nation if we expect to strengthen those things. What’s your final authority?
