

# Have You Lost Truth?

Did you know that God has blinded many people to the understanding of His word; that for many, biblical truth has been clouded or obscured? John 12:40, “He has blinded their eyes and hardened their heart, lest they see with their eyes, and understand with their heart, and turn, and I would heal them.” In their unbelief they have made themselves wilfully blind and deaf to His word and God has judged it appropriate. Their hearts have been hardened so that they become impervious to His word. Ephesians 4:18, ‘They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart’.

This spiritual blindness flourishes in all denominations, even as it did among the Scribes and Pharisees at the time of Christ, and there is a reason for it. We can begin to grasp that reason by looking at the best known example of this blindness, which is pictured as a woman (often used as the symbol of a church in the Bible) in Revelation 17:3-5, ‘ And the angel carried me away in the Spirit into a wilderness, where I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast that was covered with blasphemous names and had seven heads and ten horns. And the woman was dressed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls. She held in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the impurities of her sexual immorality. On her forehead a mysterious name was written:

**BABYLON THE GREAT,  
THE MOTHER OF PROSTITUTES  
AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.’**

I think most of us can recognise which great church is referred to here, a church from which stemmed all the Protestant churches, her deceived children! We should also note that God pulls no punches in describing these false churches!

This worldwide church boasts about how the Protestant churches all follow her rejection of the True 7<sup>th</sup> Day Sabbath, Genesis 2:2-3, ‘And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation’. They have every right to boast about their success, for the only authority for that change to the first day of the week is *their* claimed authority. It is nowhere found in the Bible!

Right away we see how successful Satan has been in attacking the Truth, for the vast majority of all “Christianity” continues in this breaking of one of the Ten Commandments, Exodus 20:9-10, ‘ “**Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter,**

your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates”’. You can’t get a more serious loss of Truth!

Her Protestant children also share her responsibility for the false belief that we go to Heaven when we die, or Hell, or some state in-between; the Pearly Gates, sitting on a cloud, and looking down on relatives left behind. All of these misrepresent the Truth. John 3:13, ‘No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man.’ Not a single person has died and gone to Heaven! Death is simply a sleep, Daniel 12:2, ‘And many of those **who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake**, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt’.

“For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those **who have fallen asleep**, for the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first”, 1 Thessalonians 4:15-16. (Read our article, “What Happens when We Die?”)

Of the few churches not so deceived, who do still keep the 7<sup>th</sup> Day Sabbath, the best known and largest denomination believes that after Christ’s return, and during the Millennium, no-one will be left alive on the earth. All will have died during the coming Great Tribulation except for the few righteous who will have been taken to Heaven by Christ for 1000 years! However, this false belief is contradicted by hundreds of scriptures in Isaiah, Ezekiel, Jeremiah and the Minor Prophets, but it can be summed up in just one verse: Isaiah 24:6, “**Therefore a curse devours the earth, and its inhabitants suffer for their guilt; therefore the inhabitants of the earth are scorched, and few men are left**”. These will actually grow into many millions during the 1000 years!

After discussing the major examples of this loss of Truth in the greater denominations, we are left with those smaller churches to consider, with only thousands of members each. Their lesser loss of truth is revealed by their failure to believe and follow the **example** of Jesus Christ and the scriptures which define the last 7 years before Jesus Christ establishes His Kingdom here on the earth, and the result is unpreparedness for the return of Christ for His Bride, and confusion!

These 7 years are a coming time of the greatest danger to human life the world has ever known, especially the last half, when mankind will experience the greatest penalty for its rebellion against God’s Laws, Matthew 24:21-22, ‘**For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, and never will be. And if those days had not been cut short, no human being would be saved [alive]’**. But for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short’. What we are experiencing with COVID-19 is merely a foretaste, an awakener for those still in contact with God’s word, but how many of *them* will faithfully obey Christ’s End -Time commands?

Moreover, those remaining Churches *misunderstand* the last seven years, cf. Daniel 9:27, “[And he will confirm a covenant with many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of the temple will come the abomination that causes desolation, until the decreed destruction is poured out upon him.](#)” Berean Study Bible. A common belief of many is that they will be raptured away to Heaven *before* the Tribulation even starts. One only needs to read Daniel 11:33 or Revelation 6:11 to see that that is false; see our article “Raptured Away”, number 28, Page 2, of Articles. *Everyone* alive at that time will experience the first half of the 7 year Tribulation.

The rest of these churches generally reduce the 7 year tribulation to just 3½ years. This occurs because they have not understood the difference between “[the tribulation of those days](#)”, Matthew 24:29, which are the first 6 Seals of Revelation chapter 6, and the last 3½ years of the “[great tribulation](#)”, Matthew 24:21, which is the 7<sup>th</sup> Seal of Revelation 7. (See our End Time Timeline on this website, under ‘More’, then ‘End time’).

They also often believe that the “True Church” (which many of them believe they are) will be kept safe during this horrendous time in a place of safety called Petra, in Jordan. While the Bible indicates there will be some of God’s people protected there, (Read our article “From Jerusalem to the Sea of Glass”) the 144,000 who are in the First Resurrection are carried to Heaven at the 6<sup>th</sup> Seal, half way through those 7 years, and become Christ’s Bride (Matt. 25 1-10) in their marriage on the Sea of Glass, before the Father’s Throne. Revelation 14:1-5, Revelation 15:2. [‘Then I looked, and behold, on Mount Zion \(Hebrews 12:22\) stood the Lamb, and with him 144,000 who had his name and his \*\*Father’s name written on their foreheads.\*\* And I heard a voice from heaven like the roar of many waters and like the sound of loud thunder. The voice I heard was like the sound of harpists playing on their harps, and they were singing a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and before the elders. No one could learn that song except the 144,000 who had been \*\*redeemed from the earth.\*\* It is these who have not defiled themselves with women, for they are virgins. It is these who \*\*follow the Lamb\*\* wherever he goes. These have been redeemed from mankind as firstfruits for God and the Lamb, and in their mouth no lie was found, for they are blameless’.](#)

[And I saw what appeared to be a sea of glass mingled with fire—and also those who had conquered the beast and its image and the number of its name, standing beside the sea of glass with harps of God in their hands.](#) The rest of chapter 15 clearly shows they are in Heaven while the vials of the Great Tribulation are poured out!

We can also prove by comparing Revelation 14:14-15 with the later harvest which is cast into “[the great winepress of the wrath of God](#)”, verses 18-19, that the First Resurrection takes place *before* the Great Tribulation!

There in Heaven, the Bride of Christ remains throughout the Great Tribulation, learning all they will need to share rule with Him in His Kingdom, Revelation 20:4, ‘And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years’.

Only a few Churches even mention the Sea of Glass. Most believe instead that the First Resurrection takes place AFTER the Great Tribulation, despite the evidence we have seen. Of the ones who do mention it, how many teach that Christ’s Bride will be there for 3½ years? None that I know of! They even believe that Christ’s return for His Bride, and the First Resurrection, and the Marriage of the Lamb, Revelation 19:7-9, and the marriage supper, and Christ’s return *with* His Bride to the Mount of Olives, Zechariah 14:5, all take place during just one day!

Think about the impossibility of that!

So, we can see that virtually ALL the denominations we would recognise, have lost Truth – some just one or two Commandments, some all God’s 10 Commandments, a few just important knowledge of the End Time, which could leave them unprepared when Christ returns. Let it be acknowledged that *no-one* can claim that they have ALL Truth, but it certainly seems to be the case that the larger the church, the more dominion occurs, and the more Truth is lost.

So it is that once again, as was the case with John the Baptist, God’s servants are often found as voices ‘crying in the [spiritual] wilderness’, Hosea 9:7-8, ‘**The days of punishment are coming, the days of reckoning are at hand. Let Israel know this. Because your sins are so many and your hostility so great, the prophet is considered a fool, the inspired person a maniac. The prophet, along with my God, is the watchman over Ephraim, yet snares await him on all his paths, and hostility in the house of his God’.**

No wonder that when Christ returns, it will be said, ‘Nevertheless when the Son of man comes, shall He find faith on the earth’, Luke 18:8, and “Fear not, **little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom**”, Luke 12:32. Now, we can begin to grasp why there will be only 144,000 in the First Resurrection, even after so many years and so many who call themselves Christian!

But we still have not answered WHY? Why has Truth been lost?

The answer is found in Matthew 20:25-28, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave— just as the Son of Man did not come

to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” In one word the answer is dominion. Dominion which in effect becomes idolatry. From the very first church we mentioned, dominion found its place. Power, wealth and control over what the laity can believe has cost the lives of millions in inquisitions and burnings at the stake in the Middle Ages, and ruined many lives today.

Even today, and even in many Sabbath keeping churches, such is man’s lust for power, or wealth, or position or control that we actually find one church leader claiming he is a king with a new throne, and a replacement ‘Stone of Scone’. He has bought a private jet and a stately home in England. Of course he *claims* these are for church use and his organisation, the ‘one true church’, has more truth than others, but **he** is no slave, and his members had better not dispute his claimed authority, as expelled refugees from that church have witnessed.

Although this is an extreme example, the pattern is typical of almost all the larger churches we have mentioned. Many have patterned their church government after the example of the hierarchy of that great mother church in Revelation 17. Some have changed to an oligarchy, rule by a group, rather than one pope or president, but the principle of *rule* from the top down remains common, and all too many expect their members to follow church doctrine before the word of God. The amount of dominion may differ, but for a lay member to bring new light or Truth from God’s word and expect change, the result would be the same – ignored, rejection or even expulsion. And so error remains, Biblical Truth remains hidden, Christ’s End Time requirements upon the Church are ignored, as people look to the man, or men who decide what should be believed.

This is wrong. Christians must always look directly to Jesus Christ and His Holy word. He alone is the Head of the Church, and each of us is directly responsible to Him for our beliefs and obedience, no man intervening. Dominion destroys truth by directing us to a man or men. 1 Corinthians 6:9, ‘**Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, ...**’

Christ told us how to judge men. We are to look at their fruits. Matthew 7:16, ‘**You will recognise them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thorn bushes, or figs from thistles?** Look at the fruits of the Spirit and compare them with the man, or men. Galatians 5:22, ‘**But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law**’.

These are these fruits we should see in our church leadership. And remember Matthew 20:27; are your leaders servants, or rulers? Do they station themselves *above* the flock, acting as if superior? Use tithes for expensive homes and cars, or even planes? Is there fear in the church? 1 John:18, ‘**There is no fear in love, but**

perfect love casts out fear'. These are the bitter fruits of dominion, but toleration of dominion results in idolatry, the acceptance of false teaching and the consequent loss of truth. At the start we read Ephesians 4:18, 'They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart'. Those who bow to dominion God has blinded and hardened their hearts!

Don't let any man or men rob you of your calling: 'For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps'. Choose Jesus Christ, His word and His example. The Truth!

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