Christ to the church at Pergamos:
....I have a few things against thee,
because thou hast there them
that hold the doctrine of Balaam,
who taught Balac to cast a stumblingblock
before the children of Israel,
to eat things sacrificed unto idols,
and to commit fornication.
Revelation 2:14

Balaam's War Strategy

The doctrine of Balaam is a perfect example of the seductive, or snake, aspect of the satanic war strategy. Balaam was a Syrian diviner hired by the kings of Moab & Midian to place a curse on the house of Israel while it was still under Moses' leadership in the wilderness. When the king of Moab, Balak, learned that the Israelites had defeated both the king of the Amorites & the king of Baashan he was terrified that they would invade his own territory at some point. Cursing the Israelites was his war strategy of choice. However, the diviner, Balaam, was repeatedly warned by God not to curse His chosen people.

As an alternative, Balaam devised a highly effective plan of corruptive seduction. He advised Balak to allow the women of Moab & Midian to camp next to the Israelites & to lure the men into fornication & marital union so as to corrupt their generational purity. This was the result:

And Israel abode in Shittim,

and the people began to commit whoredom

with the daughters of Moab.

2 And they called the people

unto the sacrifices of their gods:

and the people did eat, and bowed down to their gods.

3 And Israel joined himself unto Baalpeor:

and the anger of the Lord was kindled against Israel.

4 And the Lord said unto Moses,

Take all the heads of the people,

and hang them up before the Lord against the sun,

that the fierce anger of the Lord

may be turned away from Israel.

5 And Moses said unto the judges of Israel,

Slay ye every one his men that were joined unto Baalpeor.
6 And, behold, one of the children of Israel came
and brought unto his brethren a Midianitish woman
in the sight of Moses,
and in the sight of all the congregation
of the children of Israel,
who were weeping
before the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

7 And when Phinehas, the son of Eleazar. the son of Aaron the priest, saw it, he rose up from among the congregation, and took a javelin in his hand; 8 And he went after the man of Israel into the tent. and thrust both of them through, the man of Israel, and the woman through her belly. So the plague was stayed from the children of Israel. 9 And those that died in the plague were twenty and four thousand.

Numbers 25:1-9

Undoubtedly the strategy culminated in a highly effective slaughter of God's people. Sadly a similar, albeit clandestine, slaughter is in progress on today.

The satanic agenda functions at its BEST when you are mesmerized by the dragon component of his beast system, more specifically for TI's this would include the latest military technology, the newest tactical gains of the New World Agenda, Chem Trails etc. It's while your attention is diverted towards the more obvious forms of adversarial aggression that corrosive serpentine maneuvers most successfully slither into your minds & hearts. It is in your longing for comfort & rest from the brutality of the TI experience that you will most readily succumb to the enemy's second phase of attack & the church is his prime territory.

While the story of Balaam referred to the intermarrying of different nations, it was the merging of other gods into the worship practices of the Israelites that most enraged God. This is the fornication that was Christ was speaking about to the church of Pergamos. Today it is expressed as the merging of pagan & occult practice into authentic Christianity. Throughout the writings of the Old Testament prophets, such fusion of false belief & practice into the authentic faith is referred to as (spiritual) adultery.

Most of you understand that in the latter days there is to come a revived kingdom of iron-like brutality that will dominate the earth. What many fail to understand is that in order for the satanic beast to finalize its governmental grip, its power must be ushered in by a false global faith. Moreover, this false faith has been operating for guite some time within our current institutional churches.

Think about it. If in reality all the masses of Christians that exist today had all the power of the living God at their disposal would Satan have any hope at all of ushering in his New World Order? Of course not! Satan's FIRST mission had to be the corruption of the true faith. If you already reviewed Daniel's timeline then you should understand that we are well into the latter portion of the latter day period & on the cusp of the Tribulation. This is what Paul wrote about this very period in human history:

> 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;

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.

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

2Thessalonians 1:3-5

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.

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

2Thessalonians 2:10-11

3 For the time will come when

they will not endure sound doctrine;

but after their own lusts shall they
heap to themselves teachers,
having itching ears....

4 And they shall turn away their ears from the truth,
& shall be turned unto fables...
2Timothy 4:3-4

With so little time remaining, I can only briefly describe a corruptive process that has been incrementally disintegrating the authentic faith for the last two thousand years. Most people fail to discern even the basic rudiments that differentiate being a 'good Christian' from being a 'good American', the most important distinction being that your opinion simply doesn't matter when you are a Christian. Only TRUTH should matter.

This is what Christ said to Pilate shortly before his crucifixion:

To this end was I born,
and for this cause came I into the world,
that I should bear witness unto the truth.
Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.
John 18:37

So everything is *NOT* relative &, no, one opinion is *NOT* as good as another. There is indeed an <u>ABSOLUTE TRUTH</u> & if you truly love Christ for what he died to give humanity, then the search for his TRUTH should be all consuming in your life. Have the churches you attend asked you to earnestly delve into the books of the Old Testament prophets, or have they told you that Christ's death made the prophecies irrelevant to you? This is what God said through his prophet Jeremiah:

The anger of the Lord shall not return,
until he have executed,
and till he have performed the thoughts of his heart:

in THE LATTER DAYS ye shall consider it perfectly. Jeremiah 23:20

The fierce anger of the Lord shall not return,
until he hath done it,
and until he have performed the intents of his heart:
iN THE LATTER DAYS ye shall consider it.
Jeremiah 30:24

The reality is that the writings of the Old Testament prophets are critical to the understanding of the flaws in contemporary Christianity. What is common to both the generation in which the prophets wrote & to our own is the pervasive denial of having betrayed God.

Yet thou sayest, Because I am innocent, surely his anger shall turn from me.

Behold, I will plead with thee, because thou sayest, I have not sinned.

Jeremiah 2:35

Yet they seek me daily, and delight to know my ways, as a nation that did righteousness, and forsook not the ordinance of their God: they ask of me the ordinances of justice; they take delight in approaching to God.

Isaiah 58:2

Amazing, isn't it, how off-base we can be? And what is the easiest satanic ploy to derail the naive convert? Why a well placed satanic <u>miracle</u> of course, of the sort that convinces the recipient that he is truly blessed & in good standing with God. Meanwhile, a substantive repentance process is left wholly unaddressed. This is what Isaiah spoke to his contemporaries who were convinced that they were in good standing with the Creator:

Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear:

2 But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

Isaiah 59:1-2

At this point I will illustrate just a few of the areas many churches have deviated from authentic biblical teaching.

1. Many believe that the function of a priest, minister, pastor or prophet is to inspire & motivate their congregants to continue in their walk with Christ. Above all, the meetings must be sufficiently pleasant for the people to want to return on a regular basis.

This is what the bible has to say about the shepherd's *primary* responsibilities:

For the priest's lips should keep knowledge, & they should seek the law at his mouth: for he is the messenger of the LORD of hosts. 8;But ye are departed out of the way; ye have caused many to stumble at the law.... Malachi 2:7-9

Thy prophets have seen vain & foolish things for thee: & they have not discovered thine iniquity, to turn away thy captivity....

Lamentations 2:14

So the institutional leaders are supposed to teach God's *LAW* & to 'discover the iniquity' of the people. These roles are hard core & there certainly are people out there doing this type of work. But they clearly are not in the majority & they don't have the greatest following. Let's continue.

This next illustration might appear invaluable at first, but it can reveal a powerful psychological corruption that must be addressed:

2. The image of Christ that is culturally popularized is that he was a tall, handsome man with light eyes. However, this is how the bible describes him:

....and they went, & entered into a village of the Samaritans, to make ready for him (Christ).

53-And they (the Samaritans) did not receive him (Christ),

because his face was as though he would go to Jerusalem.

Luke 9:52-56

....he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him. Isaiah 53:2

So, in reality, Christ looked Jewish & was not at all handsome. How do you feel about that? Are you asking yourselves why the bait & switch? You should....

3. The most popular of American churches are heavy on the 'prosperity message' (which I don't believe even existed until the 1980's). Let's look at the teachings of Christ:

No man can serve two masters:
for either he will hate the one, and love the other;
or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other.
Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

Matthew 6:24

So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he *cannot* be my disciple. Luke 14:33

Even Paul was no nonsense on this issue:

For the love of money is the root of all evil:
which while some coveted after,
they have erred from the faith,
and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.
1Timothy 6:10

This is how the first century Christians responded to the authentic teachings of the apostles:

34 Neither was there any among them that lacked: for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold, 35 And laid them down at the apostles' feet: and distribution was made unto every man according as he had need.

Acts 4:34-35

4. With the exception of a very few, most churches practice the pagan holy days such as Christmas & Sunday worship. What's more, most people understand that these are not biblically sanctioned but continue to practice them while at the same time ignoring the commanded observances. This is how the bible describes the satanic 'little horn' of the latter day period that gives the beast his power:

And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws....

Daniel 7:25

The issue isn't really as confusing as you were led to believe, is it?

5. The charismatic churches in particular are teaching that to 'walk in the spirit' is to walk with Christ. Moreover, walking in the spirit exempts one from having to walk in the law. This is a gross misinterpretation of Pauline Doctrine as I tried to illustrate in 'God's Law Eternal'. My first concern here, however, is to introduce you to scriptures that point to the fact that Christians are frighteningly susceptible to invasion by satanic entities when they don't understand correct doctrine:

If a man walking in the spirit & falsehood do lie, saying I will prophesy unto thee of wine & of strong drink; he shall even be the prophet of this people.

Micah 2:11

In this case Micah is referring to prophets that *knowingly* carry false spirits & that seduce people into believing what they have to say. Interesting, isn't it, that the idiom 'walking in the spirit', which is so often used in the churches today, is used here to refer to a spiritual scam artist? This is what Paul had to say about the danger that is being realized in many of our contemporary churches where people unknowingly receive false spirits:

For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus,
whom we have not preached,
or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received,
or another gospel, which ye have not accepted,
ye might well bear with him.

2Corinthians 11:4

6. Most church doctrine is based on acceptance of 'replacement theology'. This is the belief that Christian culture was ordained by God to replace Jewish practices-that we are a separate flock unto God. Christ's words, however, flatly contradict this pervasive contemporary distortion.

Christ speaking:

And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold,

and one shepherd.

John 10:16

and this is what Paul spoke to Gentile believers:

17 And if some of the branches be broken off, and thou, being a wild olive tree, wert grafted in among them, and with them partakest of the root and fatness of the olive tree;

18 Boast not against the branches.

But if thou boast,

thou bearest not the root, but the root thee.

Romans 11:17-18

The commandments tell us that taking the name of the Lord thy God in vain will not go unpunished. Yet this promised retaliation does not seem to prevent the enemies of God from executing their subversive agendas. I've learned that in sea navigation an error of only 1% can steer a ship thousands of miles from its intended destination. Satan doesn't need to plant more than the tiniest bit of doctrinal leaven to corrupt the plan of God Jehovah for our lives. His cohorts astutely remain in the gray, never venturing into the full doctrinal clarity of basic black. This was the warning of Peter:

1-But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them,

& bring upon them swift destruction. 3....And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you.... 2Peter 2:1,3

Notice that Peter says that these tares among the wheat <u>would 'deny the Lord that bought them</u>'. Who is the father that <u>bought</u> them if not Satan himself? Thus, this passage is a warning to us that purposeful false teachers & prophets would speak **against** Satan so as to most effectively confuse the sheep that follow them.

Certainly the apostles, as well as Christ himself, gave ample warning that Satan would be sending out false ministers. Paul spoke these famous words to his followers:

13 For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.

14 And no marvel;

for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.

15 Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness;

whose end shall be according to their works. 2Corinthians 11:13-15

Evidently he was speaking about the kind of minister we tend to 'like' best, the one who inspires without 'revealing our sins'. This is what Peter had to say when he was specifically targeting the followers of the *way* of Balaam:

14 beguiling unstable souls:
an heart they have exercised with covetous practices....
15following the way of Balaam the son of Besor,
who loved the wages of unrighteousness....
18 For when they speak great swelling words of vanity,
they allure through the lusts of the flesh,
through much wantonness,
those that were clean escaped from them who live in error.
19 While they promise them liberty,
they themselves are the servants of corruption:
for of whom a man is overcome,
of the same is he brought in bondage.
2Peter 2:14-19

I'll end at this point with the second part of Peter's warning. It's painfully tragic, since it describes the consequences for that individual who allows himself to succumb to the seduction. Take it very seriously, please.

20 For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning.

21 For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness,

than, after they have known it,
to turn from the holy commandment
delivered unto them.

22 But it is happened unto them
according to the true proverb,
The dog is turned to his own vomit again;
and the sow that was washed
to her wallowing in the mire.

2Peter 2:20-22

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