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

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87 I believe, one of these glorious days, when this united confederation of church goes together, and the new pope is brought out of the United States and put over there according to prophecy, then they'll form an image like unto the beast. And I tell you, the true Church of God will be drove together. The real, true believers out of Methodist, Baptist, Presbyterian, Pentecostal, Nazarene, Pilgrim Holiness, whatever they'll be, will go together and cemented by the love of God, that'll make the Body of the Lord Jesus Christ, all the believers. And agnostics and shallow-minded will be cast to one side; they'll go right on into the confederation of churches.

*There is not and has never been a record of a confederation of churches, there is a council of churches that has existed since 1948 and includes members of all denominations*

*I do not know of any scripture where an outside persecution caused the people of God to come together if the Holy Spirit of God the Father with the Word of God does not bring us together then nothing else will.*

*The scripture does not speak of a coming together but actually the opposite.*

II TIMOTHY 4:

2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

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, and shall be turned unto fables.

AMOS 8:

11 Behold, the days come, saith the Lord GOD, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD:

12 And they shall wander from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east, they shall run to and fro to seek the word of the LORD, and shall not find it.

*The following information comes from various sources.*

*It seems like a year of 75th anniversaries in 2023. It’s the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. We have just celebrated the Windrush generation, the National Health Service is 75 too. One anniversary which may have slipped the radar is the* [*75th birthday of the World Council of Churches*](https://www.oikoumene.org/news/world-council-of-churches-celebrates-75-years-to-dance-song-evoking-special-memories)*.*

*The origins of the WCC were birthed in student lay movements of the 19th century, the 1910 Edinburgh mission conference and the 1920 encyclical from Synod of Constantinople which called for a ‘fellowship of churches.’ However, it wasn’t until 1948, in the shadow of global destruction from World War II, that the first gathering took place in Amsterdam. Today the WCC brings together churches, denominations and church fellowships in more than 120 countries and territories throughout the world, representing over 580 million Christians and including most of the world’s Orthodox churches, scores of Anglican, Baptist, Lutheran, Methodist and Reformed churches. There are now 352 member churches.*

*As of 2023, there are approximately 1.406 billion Catholics worldwide. This represents a 1.15% increase from the previous year.*

Catholic do not belong to the world council of Churches because Catholics believe they are the only church. By a decree by Catholic pope XX111 and completed by

*[Unitatis Redintegratio](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Unitatis_redintegratio" \o "Unitatis redintegratio)* decree. And the Catholic Pope Paul V1

***Separated brethren*** is a term sometimes used by the [Catholic Church](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Catholic_Church) and its clergy and members to refer to [baptized](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Baptism) members of other [Christian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christianity) traditions.

Since at least the mid-1990s, the term has often been replaced by Catholics with phrases such as "other Christians". Christians baptize using the trinitarian formula "in the name of the [Father](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/God_the_Father), and of the [Son](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/God_the_Son), and of the [Holy Spirit](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Holy_Spirit_in_Christianity)"[[22]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Baptism#cite_note-22)

*Independent groups will deny they belong to the WCC but by fruit are connected*

*Also not a gathering but a falling away has been prophesied.*

II THESSALONIANS 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;

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?

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

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

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:

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

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:

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

Strong: 1753 energeia {en-erg'-i-ah} working, efficiency; in the NT used only of superhuman power, whether of God or of the Devil

Delusion: 4106 plane {plan'-ay} error. wrong opinion relative to morals or religion; error which shows itself in action, a wrong mode of acting; error, that which leads into error, deceit or fraud.

*Error does not refer to deed that a person will do or has done but rather what a person believes.*

*All sinners are guilty of deeds they commit and will be judged for them but no matter how clean you may live, and you should, but it will be blackened out if you believe error.*

II CORINTHIANS 7:

1 Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

*Delusion in religion starts with following and believing the wrong gospel it becomes a strong delusion when a person continuedly rejects truth.*

*Gospel means good news.*

JEREMIAH 6:

14 They have healed also the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly, saying, Peace, peace; when there is no peace.

II PETER 2:

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.

II CORINTHIANS 11

4 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.

*One thing that holds people in captivity is false prophecy. It causes people to keep their eyes on some further event or promise that will never happen.*

*If they can see a possibility of a prophesy from a false teacher, they are following a hope of a prophesy actually happening they will get excited while ignoring many prophecies that have already failed or being proven error.*

*The man of sin, the mark of the beast and the beast are prophesies that keep people looking to the further instead of the presence of what is happening right before them.*

*People would not call it prophesy but those who take it upon themselves to declare what God has done in the past has ceased it also a false prophesy to stop people faith in a God that is the same as always.*

II THESSALONIANS 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;**

falling away 646 apostasia {ap-os-tas-ee'-ah} a falling away, defection, **apostasy** feminine of the same as 647 apostasion {ap-os-tas'-ee-on}

*writing of divorcement.*

*A falling away is not just what Pentecostal call backsliding but it is going away from the truth also translated to forsake.*

*Most groups hold to the scripture as the Word of God but have forsaken the Revelation of the scripture which can only be given by the Father and by the Son.*

MATTHEW 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.

*If Christ is not your teachers, He is also not your Lord and that only comes by revelation.*

I CORINTHIANS 12:

3 Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost.

EPHESIANS 4:

19 Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.

20 But ye have not so learned Christ;

21 If so be that ye have heard him, and have been taught by him, as the truth is in Jesus:

*With hundreds of voices all claiming to be the way to Christ and most differing on the way why are people looking for a falling away?*

MATTHEW 24:

26 Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold, he is in the desert; go not forth: behold, he is in the secret chambers; believe it not.

*Christ is the only one who know the way because He is the way.*

JOHN 14

5 Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way?

6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

LUKE 13:

23 Then said one unto him, Lord, are there few that be saved? And he said unto them,

24 Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able.

*A minister should never point to a church but rather also to Christ because Christ is the only one who can put you into His body which is the Church.*

*This man of sin is also the son of perdition which that term is only used twice in the scriptures.*

JOHN 17:

12 While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the **son of perdition**; that the scripture might be fulfilled.

684 apoleia {ap-o'-li-a} destroying, utter destruction

*Judas was restrained unto Christ spoke to him to do what he was ordained to do.*

JOHN 13:

25 He then lying on Jesus' breast saith unto him, Lord, who is it?

26 Jesus answered, He it is, to whom I shall give a sop, when I have dipped it. And when he had dipped the sop, he gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon.

27 And after the sop Satan entered into him. Then said Jesus unto him, That thou doest, do quickly.

28 Now no man at the table knew for what intent he spake this unto him.

*Only Christ could reveal Judas he was restrained until Christ spoke the Word and Satan incarnated Judas.*

*We are all sinners until forgiven but the Son of perdition is one who was with the truth which is at that time Christ and betrays it.*

II THESSALONIANS 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.

II CORINTHIANS 11:

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.

*I do not know the dates for sure when these books were written there were many dates given as possibilities but nothing for sure. But this is sure it either has already happen or it was a prophesy. If Satan was transformed already then that would be the son of perdition. Paul’s warning was not just Satan but his ministers*.

*No greater deception then Satan incarnated in a man.*

II THESSALONIANS 2:

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

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

*What was withholding was the falling away.*

I CORINTHIANS 11:

18 For first of all, when ye come together in the church, I hear that there be divisions among you; and I partly believe it.

19 For there must be also heresies among you, that they which are approved may be made manifest among you.

*Those that are approved, the chosen will never continue false worship* *but the whole world will worship Satan through deception.*

REVELATION 13:

4 And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?

REVELATION 13:

8 And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

*That is a continuing prophesy for all the world to worship the beast it had to start at that time and continue until the end.*

*We know the beast exist and then is gone for a time*

REVELATION 17:

8 The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition: and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is.

II THESSALONIANS 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.

[*Smith's Literal Translation*](https://biblehub.com/slt/2_thessalonians/2.htm) *For the mystery of iniquity is already energetic: only he withholding, even till he be out of the midst*.

*I don’t mean to mistranslate the scripture but as I look at scripture I see the spirit of error restrained until it is out of the midst of truth as Judas was restrained until he left the other apostles.*

I JOHN 2:

19 They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us.

*My own words not scripture but I see it as the spirit of iniquity was restrained until it was taken from the midst of the true church*.

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**THANK GOD FOR HIS WORD**

**Luke 2:12**

The angel said to the shepherds, "*And this shall be a sign unto you; ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, LYING IN A MANGER*" (a manger is a box or trough to hold hay for cattle to eat).

If the angel had not given these specific instruc­tions, the shepherds would never have thought to look for the King of Israel, the Messiah, in such a lowly place. They might have looked for Him in the temple of religion, or the palace of the king, or in the halls of learning, but never in a stable. And (without the words of God's servants) if the only babe born that night was found in a manger, they would not have believed him to be the Messiah!

THANK GOD FOR HIS WORD which reveals the glory of our Redeemer AND HIS HUMILITY in becoming poor, that we, through His poverty, might be rich (2 Cor. 8:9)! Don't try to seek Christ except "*according to the scriptures."*

**Henry T. Mahan**

**“*For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen”*(Romans 11: 36).**

Speaking of God the Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, the apostle Paul writes of three things that should cause every child of God to continually rejoice in HIM!

**OF** Him Christ is the **CAUSE** of all things.

**THROUGH** Him Christ is the **MEANS** of all things.

**TO** Him Christ is the **END** of all things.

The Lord Jesus Christ is Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last. (Rev 22:13) Christ is all, and in all. (Col 3:11) We don’t make HIM Lord of our life, He already is Lord. My only hope of redemption is that God might make Him Lord of my life. All things, especially salvation, are **OF HIM,**as the cause**, THROUGH HIM,**as the means, and **TO HIM,**in the end. Truly God saves His elect for His own name’s sake. (Is 48:11) Has God shown you that? If He has then you will proclaim as Paul did, “*to****HIM****be glory for ever. Amen.”*  ***Pastor David Eddmenson***

**ADDICTED TO THE GOSPEL**

*“I beseech you, brethren, (ye know the house of Stephanas, that it is the firstfruits of Achaia, and that they have addicted themselves to the ministry of the saints*)” **(1 Cor. 16:15).**

The word addicted means; to surrender one’s self habitually, or to become dependent upon, or to be very enthusiastic about. We usually use this word in a negative way, but here in reference to the believer it is very positive, "*they have addicted themselves to the ministry*." Believers have surrendered to Christ, submitted to Him, His rule and reign (Psalm 110:3; Acts 2:36; Phil. 2:9-10). Believers are totally dependent upon Christ for all of their salvation (1Cor. 1:30; Phil. 4:19). Believers are very enthusiastic about the good news of God's mercy to sinners in Christ (Luke 18:14; 1 Tim. 1:15). Their confession of faith is, "*He has done all things well*" (Mark 7:37), in creation (Gen.1:31), in providence (Rom. 11:36) and in salvation (John 17:2-4; 19:30).

The Lord Jesus Christ has performed all things for us and freely, fully and eternally gives all spiritual blessings to His people (Eph. 1:3-6; Psalm 57:2). Believers have faith like that of Abraham and are fully persuaded that all God promised He is able to perform (Rom. 4:20-22). Author unknown