

Demonism (part 49:the Remnant)

Ten ways Satan is effectively paving the way for the Antichrist

#1, Globalism, One-World Order.

#2, Occultism.

#3, Apostasy.

#4, Worldwide Web.

#5, Animosity towards Israel.

#6, Buildup of the kings of the east, Asian power.

#7, Buildup of the king of the north, Russian power.

#8, Buildup of Europe (the European Common Market), the Revived Roman Empire.

#9, Preparation of the Jews to accept the False Prophet.

#10, Destruction of the United States as we presently know it.

#5, Animosity towards Israel (cont.)

The Word of God reveals that God has always had a faithful remnant of Jews who remained committed to Him as manifested by commitment to Jesus Christ and the spiritual life. We see the faithful remnant of Jews throughout the New Testament in Zacharias and Elizabeth (Luke 1:5-25, 57-80); Joseph and Mary (Matt. 1:18-23); the Shepherds (Luke 2:8-20); Anna and Simeon (Luke 2:21-38); John the Baptizer (Matt. 3:1-17); the Twelve Apostles, minus Judas Iscariot (John 6:69); Peter (Gal. 2:14); Timothy's mother (Acts 16:1); a certain Jew named Aquila (Acts 18:2); Apollos (Acts 18:24); 'many thousands among the Jews of those who have believed' (Acts 21:20); the circumcised of Romans 15:8-12; and the "12 tribes" in the church age of James 1:1. These individuals came from the nation of Israel, to whom Christ was sent as a Savior (Acts 13:16-17; Luke 2:32; Acts 5:31). All Jews who believe in Jesus Christ became part of the one flock of the one Shepherd (John 10:14-16). While they are part of the church, nonetheless, they are still considered by God as a faithful remnant of Jews. The Apostle Paul understood very well that he was in the body of Christ, yet he also was part of the faithful remnant of Jews (Rom. 11:1, 13-14; Philip 1:5). Jews have been given special promises and privileges from God (Rom. 11:25-27), but it is only the faithful Jewish remnant that would possess and experience these promises with regard to the nation of Israel. God has a future for Israel, and only the faithful remnant (Jewish-Christians) will enter those blessings.

Even with a small but faithful remnant in its midst, the nation of Israel continually defected from its divinely-elected purposes in the Old Testament and New Testament. She continually strayed from the Lord and Bible doctrine. As a result, she suffered divine discipline, and then turned around and inflicted suffering on the faithful remnant in her midst (cf. Jeremiah, Jesus). The ultimate cause of Israel's woes, including the Holocaust, is her negative volition to Jesus Christ inspired by Satan, the preeminent anti-Semite. Satan's plan has always been to disrupt the plan and purpose of God. Ergo, it is not surprising to find him attacking the elected nation, in particular, the faithful remnant. For much of the plan of God is inseparably bound to the people of Israel. Again, the trials of Israel stem from the basic conflict between divine purpose and satanic opposition. The very fact that God selected Israel to bring the human race the Word of God and the Messiah makes Israel the object of special satanic opposition. Satan's opposition to Israel will continue until the rebellion at the end of the millennium. It is only because of God's gracious sustaining hand that Israel still exists. Throughout the centuries, Satan has longed to blot out Israel, but God has preserved her through His grace. An aspect of His grace is instantiated in the faithful remnant of Jewish Christians.

Not only has there always been a faithful remnant of Jewish Christians connected with the nation of Israel, there has always been a faithful remnant of Christians in the church age. On the flip side, just as most of the Jews of the Old Testament suffered under carnality (living out of fellowship with God), likewise, most Christians throughout the church age have suffered under carnality. Although being among the faithful remnant in any age always has its difficulties (e.g., rejection by majority of contemporary believers and society), the high price of carnality and being unfaithful to God is much greater.

What are some of the costs of carnality and spiritual defection? Serious contemplation of the spiritual losses for the carnal believer, whether he is Jew or Gentile, in the Old Testament or New Testament, reveals that they are truly horrific: 1) a life lived under constant divine discipline (1 Cor. 11:30; 1 John 5:16); 2) a life of endless frantic search for happiness (1 Tim. 6:10); 3) a life of endless sublimation of the temporal for the eternal (Matt. 6:19-24); 4) a life lived with darkness in the soul (1 John 1:6); 5) the loss of the spiritual joy of fellowship with God (1 John 1:1-4); 6) the loss of the power and fruit of the Holy Spirit (Gal. 5:16-22); 7) the loss of direction, purpose, and capacity for life (Ecc. 1:2-3); 8) the loss of testimony and ministry to others (Matt. 5:10-16); 9) the loss of spiritual perspective (2 Peter 1:9); 10) the loss of spiritual and doctrinal stability, even one's own faith in God (2 Pet. 3:17; 1 Tim. 1:18-20; 2 Tim. 4:1-5); and the loss of rewards in heaven (2 John 8). One of the most frightening things about carnality is that in such state one is usually not aware of how carnality is eviscerating his spiritual life as he sleepwalks through life, "*For this reason it says, "Awake, sleeper, And arise from the dead, And Christ will shine on you."*" (Eph. 5:14). Countless believers are just wasting their lives away chasing empty cosmic dreams all the while God has a marvelous personal plan for them, *I came that they might have life, and might have it abundantly,* (John 10:10). There is no abundant life in carnality and reversionism. Cheap thrills or fun from time to time, perhaps. But that does not come anywhere near the abundant life in Christ—such a life that depends on nothing of this world for true happiness and blessedness of soul. True and unconditional happiness, joy, and gratitude find their source only in Jesus Christ, 'Ehyeh-Logos.

The carnal believer stands in contrast to the healthy growing believer who is part of the faithful remnant. This individual is very much alive to God. He lives a life of joy and gratitude for God and His grace throughout each and every day: *always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father* (Eph. 5:20); *in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus* (1 Thess. 5:18). In fact, what distinguishes a healthy growing believer from a carnal sleepwalker, is that the former lives in the reality of God, which always translates to gratitude whereas the latter rarely thinks about God let alone live in appreciation of God. In fact, the sleepwalking Christian is much like the unbeliever of Romans 1, who ignores God, suppresses God and is ungrateful to God, who is the giver of *every* good gift that anyone has ever received (James 1:17).

The faithful remnant of believers always loves and supports the Word of God. It is because of the remnant that doctrinal churches still exist. As a matter of fact, if not for the faithful remnant there never would have been a FBC, and no teaching of Esse, esse, or the transcendentals, or our current massive study Beauty/Glory of God. Yes, the faithful remnant in any generation always provides a doctrinal impact in one way or another. Thanks to the faithful remnant who called me to FBC to teach the Word of God and to the faithful remnant who continues to support the teaching of God's marvelous Truth, the whole truth, total truth☺

On 'Ehyeh's Glory Road,

Pastor Don