

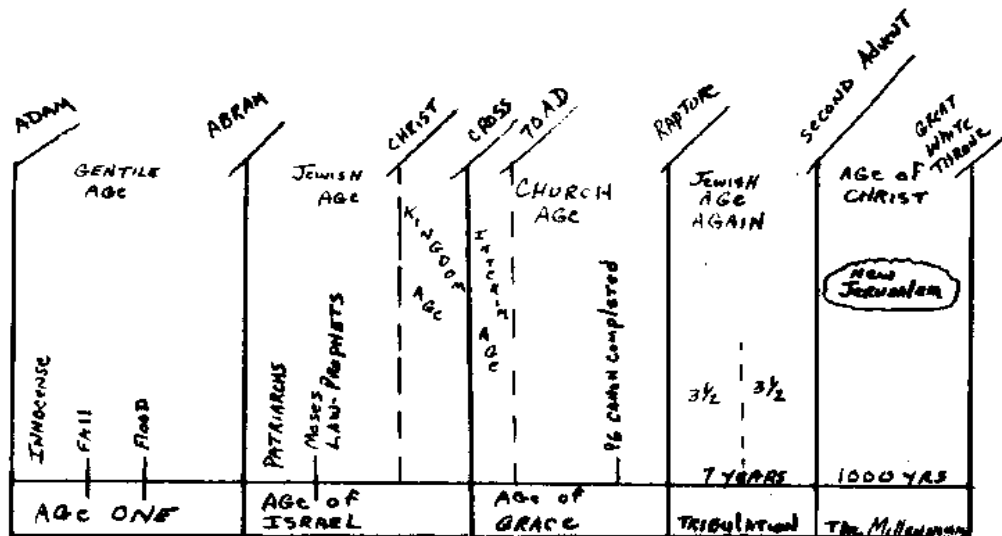
1. Last week we began an analysis of 2Ti 4:3-5.
2. Before we continue that study, I want to give you opportunity to use 1Jo 1:9 as may or may not be necessary.
3. For a written and/or audio copy of this lesson please go to *westbankbiblechurch.com* and *click-on streaming audio of services.*
4. I want to review some of that learned last week and then begin new material at point 2.5 on page two where we were studying a few Old Testament examples of false teachers.

NIV

2Ti 4:3 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;

2Ti 4:4 And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

2Ti 4:5 But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.



5. I think the best way to study these verses is to review the *Doctrine of False Communicators.*

## Review

1. The apostle Paul speaks of Hymenaeus, Philetus and Alexander as men who had done most serious injury to the church.

2. Old Testament examples:

2.1 Satan convinced one-third of the angels to follow him in his rebellion and terrible act of pride. Isa 14:12-13; Rev 12:4

2.2 Satan was a deft false communicator when he possessed the snake, a creature originally created as a thing of beauty but later cursed to its present state because of his seduction of Eve. Gen 3:1-6

2.3 Satan was also a major player in the slaying of Abel. Gen 4:2-8

2.4 There were false communicators who no doubt tried to dissuade Noah in building the ark. As John Grey Barnhouse has said in his book entitled *Genesis*:

"We must realize it had never rained upon the earth. Rain was one of the things not seen as yet. What a fool Noah must have seemed to those who lived around him, when he warned of a change in nature that was one of the greatest in geological history."

2.5 There were false communicators who rose up against Moses. Exo 17:2-6 and Num 16:1-40

### Summary

1. Numbers 16:1-40 indicates that Korah, a Levite, rebelled against Moses along with 249 co-conspirators and were punished for their rebellion when God sent fire from heaven to consume them.

2. Korah's Reubenite accomplices Dathan and Abiram were also punished when God caused the ground to split open beneath their feet swallowing them, their families, anyone associated with Korah and all their possessions.

3. Furthermore, those Israelites who did not like what had happened to Korah, Dathan and Abiram; they too were punished. Moses and his family were told by God to depart from the multitude. God then smote 14,700 men with a deadly plague. The plague was punishment for objecting to Korah's destruction.

## **Destruction of Korah**

1. At the time of Korah's engulfment, the earth became like a funnel, and everything that belonged to Korah, even linen that was at the launderer's and needles used in the production of tents and even various items borrowed by persons living near and far; all of these items began rolling toward the chasm. Everything rolled until it fell into the chasm.

2. According to the Rabbis, Korah himself underwent the double punishment of being burned and buried alive.

Num 16:2 Now Korah and his men rose up against Moses, with certain of the children of Israel, two hundred and fifty princes of the assembly, famous in the congregation, men of renown:

Num 16:3 And they gathered themselves together against Moses and against Aaron, and said unto them, Ye take too much upon you, seeing all the congregation are holy, every one of them, and the LORD is among them: wherefore then lift ye up yourselves above the congregation of the LORD?

Num 16:4 And when Moses heard it, he fell upon his face:

Num 16:5 And he spake unto Korah and unto all his company, saying, Even tomorrow the LORD will show who are his, and who is holy; and will cause him to come near unto him: even him whom he hath chosen will he cause to come near unto him.

Num 16:6 This do; Take you censers, Korah, and all his company;

Num 16:7 And put fire therein, and put incense in them before the LORD tomorrow: and it shall be that the man whom the LORD doth choose, he shall be holy: ye take too much upon you, ye sons of Levi.

Num 16:8 And Moses said unto Korah, Hear, I pray you, ye sons of Levi:

Num 16:9 Seemeth it but a small thing unto you, that the God of Israel hath separated you from the congregation of Israel, to bring you near to himself to do the service of the tabernacle of the LORD, and to stand before the congregation to minister unto them?

Num 16:10 And he hath brought thee near to him, and all thy brethren the sons of Levi with thee: and seek ye the priesthood also?

Num 16:11 For which cause both thou and all thy company are gathered together against the LORD: and what is Aaron, that ye murmur against him?

3. Aaron could not handle the Exodus generation in Moses' absence. He became a false communicator by default, forsaking his "responsibilities as High Priest."

Exo 32:1 When the people saw that Moses was so long in coming down from the mountain, they gathered around Aaron and said, "Come, make us gods who will go before us. As for this fellow Moses who brought us up out of Egypt, we don't know what has happened to him."

Exo 32:2 Aaron answered them, "Take off the gold earrings that your wives, your sons and your daughters are wearing, and bring them to me."

Exo 32:3 So all the people took off their earrings and brought them to Aaron.

Exo 32:4 He took what they handed him and made it into an idol cast in the shape of a calf, fashioning it with a tool. Then they said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of Egypt."

4. In Numbers chapters 22 through 25 we find the terrible example of Balaam. So evil was this man, he became the New Testament example for all false teachers; especially those with improper motivations.

Jude 11 Woe unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain, and ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward, and perished in the gainsaying of Core.

Jude 12 These are spots in your feasts of charity, when they feast with you, feeding themselves without fear: clouds they are without water, carried about of winds; trees whose fruit withereth, without fruit, twice dead, plucked up by the roots;

Rev 2:12 And to the angel of the church in Pergamos (300-800 A. D.) write; These things saith he which hath the sharp sword with two edges ...

Rev 2:14 But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balac to cast a stumbling block before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication.

5. Let's review the seven churches of Asia and how they are variously used.

## TIME PERIOD--NAME MEANING--SCRIPTURE REPORT

32-100, **Ephesus** means Desired. A fair report, conducted trials of the Apostles and developed church organization and evangelized. Rev 2:1-7

100-300, **Smyrna** means Myrrh. A good report, the church is persecuted & their true enemy is revealed, the Jews. Constantine ascends to the throne. Rev 2:8-11

300-800, **Pergamos** means Thoroughly Married to the world. A bad report as the Church married the world. Papal domination began. Rev 2:12-17

800-1517, **Thyatira** means Continual Sacrifices. A fair report as seeds of the reformation were sewed but the worship of Mary developed and there were many empty confessions of faith with the rise of state religion. Rev 2:18-29

1517- until the Rapture, **Sardos** means Escaping Brothers. The reformation occurs. A fair report but many false teachers prospered just before the Rapture. John reported they were once alive but now dead. Rev 3:1-6

At the moment of the Rapture. **Philadelphia** means Loving Brothers. A Good report. Kept from time of trial of the earth. (Tribulation) Rev 3:7-13

Seven years of the Tribulation, **Laodicea** means People Ruling. Bad report as the false teachings of the Tribulation abound, religion prospers. Rev 3:14-19

6. Isaiah who ministered to Judah during the 8th century B.C. was opposed by false communicators of the Egyptian Party.

Isa 30:1 Woe to the rebellious children, saith the LORD, that take counsel, but not of me; and that cover with a covering, but not of my spirit, that they may add sin to sin:

Isa 30:2 That walk to go down into Egypt, and have not asked at my mouth; to strengthen themselves in the strength of Pharaoh, and to trust in the shadow of Egypt!

Isa 30:3 Therefore shall the strength of Pharaoh be your shame, and the trust in the shadow of Egypt your confusion.

7. Jeremiah was resisted by many false teachers during his 7th century ministry to Judah.

Jer 43:1 And it came to pass, that when Jeremiah had made an end of speaking unto all the people all the words of the LORD their God, for which the LORD their God had sent him to them, even all these words,

Jer 43:2 Then spake Azariah the son of Hoshaiah, and Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the proud men, saying unto Jeremiah, Thou speakest falsely: the LORD our God hath not sent thee to say, Go not into Egypt to sojourn there:

Jer 43:3 But Baruch the son of Neriah setteth thee on against us, for to deliver us into the hand of the Chaldeans, that they might put us to death, and carry us away captives into Babylon.

Jer 43:4 So Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces, and all the people, obeyed not the voice of the LORD, to dwell in the land of Judah.

8. Malachi was opposed primarily by the priest of the land. They were rebuked for falsely communicating God's Word.

Mal 2:1 "And now this admonition is for you, O priests.

Mal 2:2 If you do not listen, and if you do not set your heart to honor my name," says the LORD Almighty, "I will send a curse upon you, and I will curse your blessings. Yes, I have already cursed them, because you have not set your heart to honor me.

Mal 2:3 "Because of you I will rebuke your descendants; I will spread on your faces the offal from your festival sacrifices, and you will be carried off with it.

Mal 2:4 And you will know that I have sent you this admonition so that my covenant with Levi may continue," says the LORD Almighty.

Mal 2:5 "My covenant was with him, a covenant of life and peace, and I gave them to him; this called for reverence and he revered me and stood in awe of my name.

Mal 2:6 True instruction was in his mouth and nothing false was found on his lips. He walked with me in peace and uprightness, and turned many from sin.

Mal 2:7 "For the lips of a priest ought to preserve knowledge, and from his mouth men should seek instruction--because he is the messenger of the LORD Almighty.

Mal 2:8 But you have turned from the way and by your teaching have caused many to stumble; you have violated the covenant with Levi," says the LORD Almighty.

9. Nehemiah was faced with numerous adversaries as he led the rebuilding of the city of Jerusalem. Several of these men made false accusations against the Jewish effort to rebuild the city plazas, walls and motes outside the wall.

Ezr 4:8 Rehum the chancellor and Shimshai the scribe wrote a letter against Jerusalem to Artaxerxes the king in this sort ...

Ezr 4:11 This is the copy of the letter that they sent unto him, even unto Artaxerxes the king; Thy servants the men on this side the river, and at such a time.

Ezr 4:12 Be it known unto the king, that the Jews which came up from thee to us are come unto Jerusalem, building the rebellious and the bad city, and have set up the walls thereof, and joined the foundations.

Ezr 4:13 Be it known now unto the king, that, if this city be builded, and the walls set up again, then will they not pay toll, tribute, and custom, and so thou shalt be without their revenue.

Ezr 4:14 Now because we have maintenance from the king's palace, and it was not meet for us to see the king's dishonour, therefore have we sent and certified the king;

Ezr 4:15 That search may be made in the book of the records of thy fathers: so shalt thou find in the book of the records, and know that this city is a rebellious city, and hurtful unto kings and provinces, and that they have moved sedition within the same of old time: for which cause was this city destroyed.

10. There were numerous false communicators actively resisting our Lord during the Kingdom Age. They were primarily the religious heirarchy consisting of the Scribes, Pharisees and Sadducees.

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