

**Articles and Sermons :: The Great Falling Away! by Milton Green****The Great Falling Away! by Milton Green - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2006/2/11 12:38****The Great Falling Away!**

Many Christians believe we are living in a time of one of the greatest revivals in the history of the Church. Evangelism reports from around the world seem to substantiate this claim. Manifestations of supernatural gifts, signs and wonders are commonplace in a large percentage of churches. They are widely proclaimed as being from the Lord and proof that God is well pleased with the Church today. Ministries are expanding into mass media evangelism which spans the globe. Evangelistic and charismatic groups are experiencing tremendous numerical growth as new buildings can be seen springing up and spreading out in almost every direction. All of these things would seem to refute the remote possibility that we are now living in the time of the great falling away of the Church: a falling away from true faith and the life-style which God demands of His people and which is taught in scripture. Instead, multitudes of church members say they are eagerly anticipating the return of Christ through a secret rapture which will whisk them out of every trial and tribulation which is obviously coming upon the world. However, when close investigation is made of the personal lives of the church members, we find little difference between most of their life-styles and those of the people in the world. Divorce, adultery, homosexuality, gossip, unforgiveness, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, and factions are as prevalent in the churches today as they are in the world.

Almost any pastor or church leader you talk to privately will admit that down inside he knows something is desperately wrong. Many people wander from church to church looking for something they know they are missing. The message of "peace and safety" being preached cannot put an end to their inner turmoil. They discern the spiritual emptiness in religious traditions and often fall prey to cults and sects that draw them away from Jesus Christ and the Word of God altogether. Others are looking for the true body of Christ which they know is supposed to be "holy and blameless." People easily become disillusioned when they see in the Church what they see in the world. Churches have turned to recreation and entertainment in an attempt to hold the people, becoming more and more like the world. Rather than select a pastor on the basis of his spiritual maturity and understanding, they choose a man based on his fund-raising ability and his charismatic personality to attract people in order to increase the size of the congregation and "build the church." Counseling ministries flourish as the message proclaimed by the churches is not sufficient to meet the needs of the spiritually hungry and desperate people. Many pastors, looking for answers, have investigated other denominations and groups (sometimes secretly for fear of being labeled disloyal to their denomination), only to be disappointed to find the other groups have similar spiritual problems. In the midst of this day of people searching for answers, we should recognize that we are now experiencing what the Lord promised would come. "Behold, days are coming," declares the Lord God, "when I will send a famine on the land, not a famine for bread or a thirst for water, but rather for hearing the words of the Lord. And people will stagger (in spiritual darkness) from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east; they will go to and fro to seek the word of the Lord, but they will not find it." Amos 8:11, 12. While this famine continues, the Lord has begun to awaken His sheep and reveal to them the essential truths from His Word that have been overlooked and ignored. God did not find it necessary to cooperate with the requirements of religious systems in order to reveal His truths in the time of Jesus. That has not changed. God has begun restoring the power and truth of the gospel today. This is the day that will see the glory and power of God coming to earth into His Church which will be "holy and blameless."

Reference Used: "The Great Falling Away Today" by Milton Green

**Re: The Great Falling Away! by Milton Green, on: 2006/2/11 14:48**

The only church I know Jesus is coming back for is one without spot or wrinkle. I for one want to be around people who are interested in living holy lives set apart for him. We need to hate the things Jesus hates and love the things He loves.

Re:, on: 2006/2/11 15:30

I wonder if the fact that true believers of Christ can't find a decent place to fellowship all has to do with the tribulation that we have to endure. It's really hard to find a place to go to church. The church as we know it is in some serious shape. What will God do with this wandering body of believers? Where will we all end up? Is the church going underground like Wilkerson and others are saying? Jesus said the foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests but the son of man has nowhere to lay his head. In Hebrews it says they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins having no certain dwelling place. This must be one of the marks of christianity. We're becoming the scum of the earth and the offscouring of the world.

Re: Remember a verse that is commonly missed out in Hebrews 11 - posted by deltadom (), on: 2006/2/11 18:44

Through weakness made strong is the verse that is missed out commonly is Hebrews 11. It is through our weakness I have always imagined that God takes the most messed up people on the planet earth and changes them. Jesus says I have come to save sinners  
I break at any one falling away as I have seen so many friends fall away it breaks my heart. Knowing that we all have in us.  
Beware lest you think you stand lest you fall.  
What is the future of the church

Re: The Great Falling Away! by Milton Green, on: 2006/2/11 22:42

When was this written Greg, do you know ?

It does apply now, for sure.

The "Apostasy" is from "Truth".

The verse he gave is right on "'Behold, days are coming,' declares the Lord God, 'when I will send a famine on the land, not a famine for bread or a thirst for water, but rather for hearing the words of the Lord. And people will stagger (in spiritual darkness) from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east; they will go to and fro to seek the word of the Lord, but they will not find it.'" Amos 8:11, 12"

Along with that, the Lord gave me this verse just a few years back.

Isa 59:14 And judgment is turned away backward, and justice standeth afar off: for truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter.

John Gill wrote of this verse:

"for truth is fallen in the street; where it used to be preached, exalted, established, and confirmed; but now thrown down and trampled upon, and few or none to help it up, and stand by it; and though it may have some secret well wishers, yet very few, if any, public advocates for it:

and equity cannot enter; either into civil courts, or Christian congregations; the doing of that which is just and right between man and man in things civil; and between Christian and Christian in things religious; or that which is right according to the word of God; can find no place, or cannot be admitted into assemblies that are called by his name. The Targum is,

"they that do truth stumble in the street; and they that exercise faith cannot be made manifest;"

such as are on the side of truth, in the service of it, cannot stand their ground through the violence of their opposers; and those that are faithful, and abide by the doctrine of faith, are forced to hide themselves, and cannot appear in the vindication of it."

**Re: separation - posted by nacl (), on: 2006/2/12 0:12**

This is a good excerpt from brother Milton. It seems we have heard this message so many times before.

It is interesting that one of the most prominent themes (if I may call it that) in the Bible is separation. The Lord's chosen ones have always been called out, as it were, from the world and those who professed to be God's but were none of His. We see this theme of separation from Abraham, throughout Israel's history, up through the New Testament church.

We as the Body of Christ are to "follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on th Lord out of a pure h eart," as we are told in 2 Timothy 2:22.

We are to be separate from unbelievers like Paul wrote in 2 Corinthians 6:14-18.

We are even to refrain from keeping fellowship with those that are called brothers but are living ungodly lives, as in 1 Co rinthians 5:9-13.

So the true church is severed from all else (Leviticus 20:26) in order to preserve God's glory in the earth.

And we know that most of the population of the world is going to be falling away and/or following false prophets and chri sts and/or loving themselves more than God. The book says so!