

Turning Away Finalizes Falling Away

Can we interpret the statement of a nationally recognized news reporter and analyst of "Americans want to move on rather than hear about a Truth Commission" as Americans are more interested in National Security than Truth?

Perhaps any church, church member, or nation of God's people can survive rejection by God during the first three stages of the five stages of the Falling Away of II Timothy 4:3,4.

"For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears from the truth, and be turned aside to fables." (II Timothy 4:3,4)

However, the fourth stage of "turn their ears away from the truth" is the precipice for which there is no return. No church, no church member, or no nation of God's people can survive as part of the kingdom of God, once they have turned away from the truth. Then the fifth stage is automatic; that is the stage where God takes over with the "strong delusion" of II Thessalonians, and any church, church member or nation of God's people is automatically turned into fables.

By now in your Bible Study of "Jeremiah and Prophecy", you should know that: (1) Jeremiah is the book that defines "backsliding" as over 75% of the usages of the

word in the Bible are in the book of Jeremiah; (2) that backsliding is worse than the Falling Away because in the Temple Message of Jeremiah 7:26 it is clearly stated with the words provided to Jeremiah by God Himself that the God's people of that generation, "the generation of His wrath", were worse than their forefathers of the Falling Away in the wilderness; (3) that backsliding, contrary to popular opinion, that is when it actually based on a literal respect for the Word of God is not those who do not come to the house of God, but is a malady of those active in attendance, who although active still move backwards away from God Himself instead of forwards; and (4) actually backsliding is the final two stages of the Falling Away--the fourth stage, the turning away from truth and the fifth stage, where God allows them to turn into fables.

By now since you both know the two great evils that any nation of Gods people can commit as summarized in Jeremiah 2:13 as (1) forsaking God as the fountain of living waters and (2) as self-constructing substitute and broken cisterns for salvation that will not hold water, and also you see the equivalency of these two great evils in the fourth and fifth stages of the Falling Away of II Timothy 4:3,4: the turning away from truth and the turning away from the listening to the truth is the clearly the equivalent of "forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters" (Jeremiah 2:13b); and the being allowed or being turned into fables is clearly the equivalent of "hewn themselves cisterns--broken cisterns that can hold no water" (Jeremiah 2:13c).

GIST OF THIS MESSAGE: TURNING AWAY FROM TRUTH IS TURNING AWAY FROM THE REAL GOD THAT IS THE FOUNTAIN OF LIVING WATERS, AND BEING TURNED INTO FABLES IS THE SELF-CREATION AND SELF CONSTRUCTION OF AN IMAGE OF GOD FOR SALVATION THAT IS A BROKEN CISTERN THAT CAN NOT HOLD WATER.

The text of this message is Jeremiah 7:28.

"So you shall say to them, 'This is a nation that does not obey the voice of the LORD their God nor receive correction. Truth has perished and has been cut off from their mouth.'" (Jeremiah 7:28)

1. It starts with a nation, one nation under God, the nation of Judah "one nation under God" and under a mutual covenant with God like the United States today, progressing almost subtly from the national level of truth down to the fundamental honest which no longer comes out of the mouth of each citizen of

the nation. Notice at first, "this is a nation that does not obey the voice of...God"; and then finally in the same verse, "truth...has been cut off from their mouth."

2. Actually the words of this text begin with "So you shall say to them", as God gives the Prophet Jeremiah the very words that he is to speak; having for several preceding verses warned Jeremiah that even as the people have not listening to the words of God from the true prophets--how God would get up early in the morning and each day (7:25) to send these true prophets with the word of God--Gods own people would now listen even less to the words of Jeremiah. You will recall that Jeremiah had to preach each day at the gates of the temple as the official prophets and priests had banned him from speaking in the temple; how the people of his own home town of Anathoth threatened him with death if he continued to preach these words from the voice of God; and how the princes of the government, the professional religious leaders, and the people of the land would not longer listen to "the voice of God" through the Prophet Jeremiah.

3. Judah was a nation that would not "obey" the voice of the LORD their God, and we must decide for ourselves with the book of Jeremiah about a nation as our example, good and bad, to what extent the United States today is like the nation of Judah at the time of Jeremiah. Long ago we learned from the Pastor James in James 5:10 that "brethren" church members are to "take the prophets, who spoke in the name of the Lord, as an example", as an example of how to continue with "suffering and patience"; how the destruction of the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah in Jude 7 were set forth in the Bible "as an example" of the "vengeance of eternal fire"; and always and ever we must be reminded of the example in teaching and preaching that "ALL SCRIPTURE is given by inspiration of God...", Jeremiah or Isaiah, the words of comfort and security as well as all the words of the Bible which are "profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, and for instruction in righteousness." (II Timothy 3:16)

NOTE: How would it be to preach the Temple Message every day at the gates of the temple, which was the only true message of this one single prophet Jeremiah among all the official prophets and priests of that time who were "false" and spoke falsely, knowing that they would not listen? Well, if indeed we in the United States have progressed to this "backsliding" which is also the fourth stage of the Falling Away, then we few preachers who continue to preach the sound doctrine of all the Word of God, are going to find out. Indeed, there is much evidence that we already are beginning

to see this turning away from truth on the part of the nation of the United States.

4. While God told Jeremiah to preach that "Truth has perished from the nation" (Jeremiah 7:28), because that is what God saw and what God decided was the truth on the matter; and as we look at what happened to this nation of Gods people as our example of both what not to do and what to do as a nation of Gods people, surely we can conclude that we as "one nation under God" have not yet progressed to the point where truth has perished; yet surely we must recognize that TRUTH IS IN THE PROCESS OF PERISHING IN OUR NATION. And this clearly means that as one nation of Gods people under God, we are in the first stage of "backsliding" as defined in the Word of God, the backsliding of a nation away from God, and we are in the fourth state of the Falling Away, where the nation "turns away from truth". Surely the turning away from truth of the fourth stage of the Falling Away of II Timothy 4:3,4 is the same as the perishing of truth from a nation of Jeremiah 7:28.

How timely now is this "truth" issue in the United States at the national level! Last week we heard Nancy Pelosi, many Republican senators, and many news commentators as they discussed the CIA, illegal torture, and who knew what about the truth at what time. Pelosi accused the CIA of lying to congress about waterboarding torture, and many republicans and commentators have come to the defence of the CIA as always being honest, without any distortion of the truth. Also on the national level, we as American citizens have learned that the very Attorneys at the Security and Exchange Commission that prosecuted Martha Steward for inside trading on stock, have been grossly guilty of practices the same dishonesty, illegality, and greed. One news commentator had the nerve to say, "The American people don't want to hear about a Truth Commission, they want to move on"; and a congressmen had the nerve to say that "National Security has priority over truth."

5. In a democratic nation and a "one nation under God", there is no national security without truth. Truth and the ordinary citizen knowing enough about truth through education and news is the very foundation of a properly functioning democracy. How can the government rest on the will and knowledge of the people, and how can the ordinary citizen know how to vote and who to vote for without truth. It should be alarming to us to realize how far as a nation "truth has perished" when our own government representatives and our national

news commentators can make such superficial and dishonest statements about TRUTH!

6. When God has Jeremiah say "the nation does not receive correction", it applies to the nation of Judah during the time of Jeremiah; but how much as our example of good and bad, does this refusal to receive correction apply to the United States today. It is obvious that this voice of God for correction comes today in the churches of the United States from the Bible; but the mature questions about this truth and truths must be asked: (1) how much of the total message of the Bible is being preached, in other words how much of the "ALL" of the ALL Scriptures" is actually be heard by the people; (2) how much of the Bible message is just comfort and security without the reproof and correction; and (3) how much do the people of churches and outside of church even listen to and heed this voice of God?

15-1: What Can Help America and American Churches Today from Jeremiah?

Since it should be clear to most church members, and Americans, who are serious about Bible Study that this "one nation under God" is, along with the rest of the world, head over heels, in the third stage of the Falling Away--the vast heaping up of Bible teachers, preachers, prophets, and evangelists of the "itching ears" types (II Timothy 4:3,4), and standing on the precipice edge of the fourth stage--the "turning away from truth"; then the more we in America and American churches can learn from Jeremiah of how God's own people slipped into this turning away from truth, then the longer we can delay the same thing from happening in our churches and in our nation.

1. All five stages of the Falling Away are inevitable as they are firmly predicted in all the prophesy and prophecies of the Bible including by Jesus who stated in Matthew 24 that near the end "because sin will abound, the love of many will wax cold", and clearly identified as a inevitable prediction in both II Thessalonians and II Timothy 4:3,4. So why bother, you may ask, with any efforts to slow down the turning away from truth, since the actuality of its happening is so firmly established in as inevitable in the Bible? Well, you do have a point there, as the Falling Away along with the appearance of the son of perdition, the man of sin, according to II Thessalonians must happen before the Second Coming; and since you are right that we are taught to prayer, "Even so come quickly Lord Jesus", for the Second Coming, why not just stop the fight against the turning away from truth as both (1) inevitable and (2) as something that must come before the Second Coming can come?

2. As you have read from SunGrist_Bible before, this battle against the Falling Away, fourth stage as well as all five stages, is a fight that we are going to lose anyway as Christians; and like in "Brave Heart", we don't have to win, just fight. Now, don't get the Bible wrong on these matters of eschatology. We do not lose the ultimate battle which is the victory over death and eternity in hell at the second coming of Christ, we just do inevitable lose the battle before the Second Coming of the Falling Away and therefore also of the Turning Away from truth.

3. The answer is simple: (1) a minority of Christians in the churches and in America will overcome the Falling Away and the turning away from truth; and (2) the majority of church members and citizens that lose the battle with truth also lose their salvation so that the Second Coming also loses hope of eternal salvation with God for them.

15-2: When Truth Dies In a Nation of Gods People?

In other words how does any nation of God's people, Judah or America, prevent the state-of-the-nation from being labelled by God Himself as "truth has perished, and it no longer comes out of their mouth" (Jeremiah 7:24). Actually the wording is really that "truth...is cut off from their mouth", which naturally implies that God has cut them off at that point from receiving or speaking truth.

"This is a nation that does not obey the voice of the LORD their God nor receive correction. Truth has perished and has been cut off from their mouth." (Jeremiah 7:24)

That God has cut off the truth from the nation is verified: (1) by the very definition and Bible understanding of "backsliding" from Jeremiah; and (2) that since backsliding corresponds with the fourth and fifth stages of the Falling Away, and that after the turning away from truth of the fourth stage, God does the rest in the fifth stage as God's people are "turned into fables". The two pre-requisites of diminished and perished truth are given in this Jeremiah 7:24 verse, and then we can back up in reverse order to get several more steps from the Temple Message of the rest of Jeremiah 7, always recalling that the Temple Message which Jeremiah delivered each day at the gates of the Temple is within itself a terse summary of all God's message and "prophecy" for God's people in the whole book of Jeremiah.

1. **Disobedience to the voice of God perishes Truth.** Truth diminishes and perishes in a nation when "a nation does not obey the voice of the LORD their God..." (7:24a)

Can this happen in America, that American citizens and church members cease to obey the voice of God on marriage, on divorce, on gay marriages, on the taking of God's name in vain, on secular activities on the sabbath day, and on greed and covetousness? Certainly! And can we say that it has already begun to happen in America although with some measure of resistance from churches and citizens; but can we see a diminishing in God's truth from the Bible on this matters that already we are losing the battle.

2. **Rebellion against "correction" perishes Truth.** Truth diminishes and perishes in a nation as "a nation...does not receive correction" (7:24b) from the voice of the LORD their God.

I think when you consider what comes from our pulpits and church activities in the major of churches today, if not all, you along with so much emphasis on the Gospel of Prosperity, the positive, how to win friends and influence people, etc, that "correction" and "chastisement" has already diminished in our land and pulpits.

3. **Truth diminishes as False Prophets are Heaped Up.** Truth diminishes in the land as the people listen more and more to the false prophets and refuse to listen to the true prophets like Jeremiah. Two times in the history of the world will the earth witness this vast "heaping up" (II Timothy 4:3,4) of false prophets with the corresponding heaping out of true prophets: (1) during the time of Jeremiah when all the officials of religion, the prophets and priests "dealt deceitfully"; and (2) during the Falling Away when there are also many more false prophets than true prophets according to Jesus (Matthew 24:11).

"Therefore you shall speak all these words to them, but they will not obey you. You shall also call to them, but they will not answer you." (Jeremiah 7:27)

NOTE: Just consider as one sure measure of diminished truth in the land, that hardly any church member today would be willing to "obey" the words from a man of God; in fact, would refuse as a church member to even consider obedience to the words of a man of God in their midst.

4. **Truth diminishes as the "incline" toward God disappears.** Truth diminishes in a nation, yea perishes, as God's own people in the churches and in the nation: (1) neither obey the voice of God, or even incline their ear toward the voice of God; (2) as they "stiffen" their necks in national disobedience to the way and will of God for their lives; and (3) as they do worse than their forefathers (Jeremiah 7:26) As the incline or bent toward God disappears in the first place of the hearts and minds of God's people comes: (1) a stiff neck of repeated and habitual disobedience to the ways and will of God; and (2) a generation of the wrath of God that does much worse than their forefathers.

5. **Truth diminishes direct proportional to the "counsels and dictates of their evil hearts".** Recall from II Timothy 4:3,4 and about the third stage of the Falling Away, as personal desires and wants of church members dominate over the voice of Christ and the Spirit for church votes and motivation, that these evil dictates and desires have lead to the call and appointment in churches of the pastors and Bible teachers of itching ears. Truth diminishes and perishes as: (1) as citizens and church members "followed the counsels and the dictates of their own evil hearts; and (2) as they went backwards and not forwards on God and truth (7:24).

Quite often today church members in large and small churches have the nerve to say "it is truth and right if the majority in our church vote for it", when they know very well it is what they want that is the motivation instead of Christ or the Spirit, that it is the "counsels and dictates of their own evil hearts" that is in control and the controlling motivation. A sign of the times in churches where the dictates and counsels of evil hearts in the church have replaced the Spirit and Christ is the obvious popular in churches of PURPOSE DRIVEN motivations in church and individual lives which is self generated rather than Christ and Spirit. It is the very personal wants of the second stage of the Falling Away-- "out of their own desires shall they heap up teachers with itching ears" (II Timothy 4:3,4)--which motivates the majority of church members today instead of truth on Bible, truth about the Spirit and about Christ, leading them also when necessary, as we see often more and more, to dump out the pastor which resists their "wants" and perverted motivations, then heap in and hold on to the pastor which acquiesces and promotes these evil motivations, evil primarily because they are substitutes for Christ and the Holy Spirit, substitutes for Truth.

6. **Family Activity dedicated to other gods.** Truth diminishes and perishes as Family and Church Activities like for the Queen of Heaven take the place of

a real listening and obedience to what God "in truth and in spirit" demands for His people (7:17-23). And once again be careful with what is truly "other gods" in any life or any family, what is truly another god is any object, person, or place than takes priority over the God of the Universe, the God of the Bible and of Jesus.

7. As prayer of Gods own people is no longer heeded by God. Truth diminishes, surely has perished, when God tells the few Prophets like Jeremiah who will listen and obey no longer to pray for His own people. They are beyond any effective and fervent prayers on their part and on the part of the men of God in their behalf. (7:16)

8. As a house of prayer becomes a "Den of Thieves". Truth diminishes and perishes as the concept of the majority of the people in any church considers God's house, no longer a "house of prayer", but as a "Den of Thieves" (Jeremiah 7:11), a HIDEOUT FOR BAD HABITS like in II Timothy 3:1-8; when the church is considered as a place that will provide a holy cloak over them no matter what they do at church or during the week. Who can mark the exact time at which any church or other house of God passes from formerly being a House of God and a House of Prayer into a Den of Thieves where criminals against God come to hide after they commit their abominations against God all week, thinking that since they are in a house of God, or what was formerly a house of God, God will forgive and overlook all these violations of the commandments habitually committed every week. It is sort of like a magic fountain of cleansing, where no matter how habitual the wrongs are, the cleaning will automatically take place; and is requested without shame, knowing full well that the same will happen next week. Of all the cover-ups in our nation where we know lead the world as the "Champion of Cover-Ups", the worse is this attempt to use the house of God as a cover up for continued and habitual bad habits and follies.

9. With distortions of the meaning and message of the commandments of God and Jesus. These distortions are called sin; and sin becomes unforgiven when it also becomes habitual. Truth certainly has diminished as the real meaning of all the 10 commandments find substitutes in false applications and interpretations so that lying is no longer a matter of truth absence, and etc.; and as having committed these truth violations all week, they come to say effectively in church that "we are delivered to do all these abominations" (7:10), as if God was really blessing them because they are still alive, prospering, and have not been punished. All the abominations listed in Jeremiah 7:9 are horrible in the sight of God, but the master sin and the one that most angers God is that of "other gods"

or false images of the God Himself, a sin that today is less and less considered even though placing any person, object, or thing in a place of priority before God Himself is "another god".

10. God has blessed and prospered us in order to continue in all these abominations. (Jeremiah 7:10) You can bet that this was God's interpretation of what the people of God were saying, for they would not have called what they were doing "abominations". The way they actually said it would be more like we hear today, "God has blessed because we have faith and we are doing what is right." Like with the Gospel of Prosperity, and these abominations were the Gospel of Prosperity of that day, faith was measured by the extent to which God provided a believer with things. Until a couple of years ago, America had an unprecedented period of prosperity as all enjoyed the American dream, and consequently the Gospel of Prosperity flourished and prospered: now that a long and continued series of calamities have replaced that prosperity, what as a supporting gospel and philosophy will replace the Gospel of Prosperity. Perhaps a gospel of calamities?

11. Truth perishes as "lying words" in worship replace Faith in God. This obviously from Jeremiah 7:4 happens when confidence in the buildings of worship, government, and communities take the place of the reality of God's presence and blessings. When even the words of worship "the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD are these" becomes a lie because it is faith in what used to be, in the heritage of the past, rather in the realities of the present. That little, three-time chant of worship and weekly devotionals was once true, and even recommended during the time of Isaiah as God through Isaiah encouraged the people to have faith in God during a time of invasion. But it was no longer true. Even as any covenant is a two way street, the continued blessing and deliverance, you might say salvation of God, depended on obedience to the voice of God.

These take time; at least one hundred years in Jeremiah when warned against by God through the Prophet Isaiah. But they inevitably cause Truth to die! For any nation, be it Judah or be it the United States. As truth is diminished year after year, it finally dies and becomes a perished, precious commodity! Can it happen in America like in Judah? Certainly, we already seen many signs in our nation and in our churches of diminished truth.

15-3: When Was Truth Born in Israel?

1. With the call of Abraham and the promise of the land of Palestine.

2. During the time of Moses.

You would have to say during the time of Moses when a nation of God's people was first established as God called and rescue them out of Egyptian bondage.

3. Truth as revealed word and words from God, and of the Bible, started with the call of Moses from the burning bush where God identified Himself as the true God, as truth; and as the "God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob".

4. With the establishment of the law of the covenant between God and the nation at Mount Sinai with the ten commandments.

5. With the definition of Prophecy, true and false, and Prophets, true and false in Deuteronomy. Perhaps you have never realized that when in Deuteronomy 18:15-22 Moses announced another Prophet like himself, the Prophet Messiah of the future and of ultimate truth that the people must listen to, he was also identifying the difference between truth and a lie, he was also equating Truth with Prophecy.

"when a prophet speaks in the name of the LORD, if the thing does not happen or come to pass, that is the thing which the LORD has not spoken, the prophet has spoken it presumptuously; you shall not be afraid of him." (Deuteronomy 1:22)

Now, as prosperity has ceased, at least momentarily as one more in the series of calamities on America since 9/11, and your favorite heaped-up prophet and prophets have spoken presumptuously about prosperity showing the extent of your faith in God, are you read to cease your respect for their prophecies on things of the good life and of purposes in the Christian life and church life that are more personal desires and wants than Christ driven and Spirit driven? You can now cease to be afraid, or respectful of, the big smile or the casual dress and ways!

15-5: True Prophecy is Truth: False Prophecy is a Lie and False.

Everyone wants to claim a prophecy from God, or to say it another way everyone wants to be right and claim to be on the right side, the side of ultimate truth. And we are almost at the point of saying that TRUTH and PROPHECY are interchangeable words; that is true prophecy and true prophets correlate directly with the truth of God which is ultimate truth.

1. Moses on Truth, Prophecy, and the Prophet Messiah in Deuteronomy. (Deuteronomy 18:15-22)

(1). God will raise up from His people of Palestine, a Prophet Messiah much like Moses, that is designated by God to be listened to and heeded completely by the people as the ultimate source of the truth of God (18:15)

(2). The people of God at Mount Sinai requested more than they thought when they asked that God not speak to them directly. They could not take all that truth, righteousness, and holiness. They needed a mediator between them and God. God said "that is good": they could die by directly listening to the voice of God Himself. (18:16,17)

(3). God Himself will raise up a Prophet from among the people of God: (a) God will put His own words of truth in the mouth of Jesus; and (b) Jesus will faithfully and with high fidelity speak only all these words which God has commanded of truth. (18:18)

(4). God will hold each human responsible for the words of truth and of God that person hears from this Prophet Messiah, Jesus. Each hearer of this word will personally become accountable to God for what he has heard. (18:19)

(5). There will be other false prophets who: (a) who presume to speak a word of truth in the name of God who has not been sent or commanded by God to speak a word of truth in the name of God; or (b) speak in the name of other gods. (18:20) Sometimes it is hard to tell today whether many of these false prophets of prosperity are in the first category, just presumptuous and not called or sent by God, or in the second category of representatives of other gods of other philosophies of things.

(6). How can we decide which is a true and which is a false prophet, what is truth and what is not, God says in His word (18:21); and then gives the appropriate answer, it takes time and give it the test of time, whether the prophecy comes true or not. Alias, give it the test of time and history: does it really happen or fail to happen? (18:22)

2. Jesus as "the way, the truth, and the life".

15-3: How Judah Was Cut Off from the Source of Truth?

1. All the official Prophets substituted the special revelations of "dreams" and "visions" for the true words from God.
2. God stopped talking to them, saying they were running with have been called or sent.
3. All the prophets and priests became just like the people, full of deceit and false dealings.
4. God promised a time when each Christians would become a Prophet.
5. That prophesy was fulfilled with the coming of the Holy Spirit on the first day of Pentecost after the Ascension, that beginning of the last days when out of many mouths would flow the prophecies of "living water".
6. The prophesy of Joel had predicted it as prophecy becoming more democratic as sons and daughters, young men and old men, would both "prophesy" (Joel 2:28-32 and Acts 2:16-21) and see visions and dream dreams. Do you not see how that is exactly what God forbade for the official prophets of the days of Jeremiah?
7. The Ascended Christ gave gifts to men and to the churches and the nations of His own people and kingdom of "prophets" along with pastors, teachers, and evangelists. (Ephesians 4:11)
8. You can read the story of the perversion of this democratic gift of prophecy and prophets in I Corinthians 14, even though it has taken over two thousand years to fully get there today.

15-4: Falling Away is to the Second Coming as "Truth" is to the Falling Away.

In other words, according to II Thessalonians even as the two signs of the Falling Away and a visual on the man of sin are our examples of warning signs of how close in the termination of human history we are to the Second Coming of Christ, when it all ends and it all happens, so also on how far we are into the five stages of the Falling Away of II Timothy 4:3,4 is gauged by how much honesty and truth has departed from this "one nation under God" of the United States. Let is be clearly understood: how close are we to the end of all things with the Second Coming of Christ depends on whether we can see the signs of the Falling Away and a visual on the son of perdition; and how far we are into the Falling Away as a nation of God's people can be measured by how much "Truth" and truth about truth is perishing from this nation.

1. We already know that the first stage of the Falling Away of II Timothy 4:3,4, "the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine", has been achieved in the churches of America and in the nation. Even if we did not see all this false and "itching ears" doctrines of the gospel of prosperity, of non-biblical words and concepts like "rapture" and millennium that deceive church members into thinking that they will not be here for the Falling Away that they are already embroiled in, even if we do not see the false prophets and itching ears Bible teachers in all these special revelations of "God told me" and "God said to me", and even if we do not see a lack of spiritual understanding in all this pentecostal excesses in worship, we know that we have progressed through this first step of the Falling Away and the second stage--personal desires and wants supplanting the Spirit and Christ for church motivation--simply because it is obvious on the national scene that we are well into the third stage of the vast "heaping up of Bible teachers and preachers with itching ears", on TV and in pulpits, in conferences, and in best-sellers the termites of itching ears Bible teachers are coming out of the woodwork on a national level.

NOTE: That is, the existence of the third stage of the Falling Away in our nation and in the churches of our nation proves that we have already gone through the first two stages, the intolerance toward sound doctrine and the personal desire driven motivations in churches supplanting the Spirit and Christ driven motivations. {If you would place "Christ" or "Holy Spirit" for Purpose Driven in the purpose driven life and church, you would see where the church and churches in America should be today, instead of the obvious motivations as each members follows his own personal desires, wants, and matters of comfort and security.}

2. What is America and American churches listening to today as a substitute for the voice of God from a true prophet like Jeremiah? Well, they are listening to what comforts them, what satisfies them, and what makes them feel that they are in control of their own church life and salvation. This is the second stage of the Falling Away that we as a people of God and as the churches of God in America today have already gone through. It is the "according to their own desires" that motivates at the grassroots each church member level a common desire for (1) intolerance toward sound doctrine, and (3) this present and vast "heaping up" of Bible teachers and preachers with itching ears.

3. Never in the history of religion in America and in the history of Christianity have you heard so many new words and concepts of prophesy and preaching, these words and concepts of special revelations extra to the written Word of

God. And likewise in the Bible classes, conferences, popular lectures on success and prosperity, and from pulpits, seminaries, and Bible colleges, of course also from TV, these termites of "itching ears" Bible teachings clamor for your recognition and money with the new and the novel.

NOTE: Overlooking the reluctance of any American to criticize the religious or religion, and overlooking the personal pride in our own preacher and prophet, it really is quite easy today to determine a false prophet or itching ears Bible teachers from what was established in the Bible long ago: (1) is he preaching and teaching for personal gain, and (2) is he preaching and teaching for personal status, the status of making and keeping disciples to himself.

15-5: A Nation of God's People Can Majority Wise Turn Away from Truth.

Never, without Jeremiah and without a close look at Jeremiah on backsliding as a nation of Gods people wholesale turning away from truth, and the God of truth, would be inclined to consider that A NATION OF GOD'S OWN PEOPLE, LIKE JUDAH THEN AND THE US TODAY, COULD CONCEIVABLE TURN THEIR BACK ON GOD AND TRUTH! Well, you see that is what backsliding is as defined by the book of Jeremiah, the primary book which discusses and defines backsliding; and that is what the Falling Away is all about.

15-6: As the Pillar of Truth Crumbles and as the Ground of the Truth Shakes.

This scripture in I Timothy bespeaks of the influences the church, or church of churches and denominations, the American church, has on the nation of the United States.

"...I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth." (I Timothy 3:15)

1. Do you not recognize some similarity between churches today as "the house of God" to the Temple of God in Jeremiah?
2. Do you not recognize this national wise "church of the living God" as like the God of the fountain of living waters of Jeremiah, who was forsaken as substitutes for salvation were created as other gods for this living God in the broken cisterns that could hold no water?

3. Do you not recognize the responsibility of any house of church of the living God for truth in the nation as a "pillar" and "ground" base for truth?

4. Do you not recognize that improper conduct in the house of God or a lack of following the rules of God for proper conduct in the church of the living God can cause truth to perish in that church and in the nation?

15-6: We Depend on the Truth about Truth in the Bible.

1. As you might expect the books of Psalms has most on Truth in the Old Testament.

2. Isaiah is second.

3. Jeremiah speaks a great deal of Truth. You saw just a sample from the Temple Message of Jeremiah 7, a summary of the book of Jeremiah; and there is much more than you can read by using a good Concordance on the word "truth".

4. In the New Testament, although quite often not recognized as such, the Gospel of John leads on truth about truth. Please read it and even note it!

5. The little epistles give us the most practical applications of what is true and truth as related to the churches and nation.

15-7: Strange So Much About Truth in the Bible Yet So Little from Pulpits.

No talking about the well warn phrases and quotes about God as Absolute Truth and Jesus as the Truth, referenced but never adequately explained as connected to other gods and the forsaking of the God of the truth as the fountain of living waters, and the substitute cisterns for salvation. Isn't it strange to you that a Christ that caused so much controversy during His life and ministry, can now be emulated in dress and messages with such a message of popularity, prosperity, and political correctness?