WORD OF THE WEEK

The Subject: The Falling Away (Apostasy)

Il Thessalonians 2:3 - For that day shall not come except there come a falling away first--

falling away- (One word in Greek) – Apostasia - defection from truth; separate or divorce. From: apo - off or remove; stao - cross or upright

Hebrews 11:1 - Now Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

substance - hupostasis - stay under

From: <u>hupo</u> - under or through; <u>stao</u> - the Greek word for cross or upright

Paul said that the day of judgment (day of the Lord) would not come until the church defects from truth. Falling away and faith (substance) are in opposition to one another. Faith is to stay upright and die daily to the desires of the flesh. Jesus said, "let a man deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me." When a believer falls away he opposes faith and ceases crucifying the flesh. He ceases faith and becomes apostate, discontinuing death to self. The apostate believer redefines faith saying that faith means he is to live for self and he will have what he desires if he believes strong enough. This lie was concocted by the devil. Biblical faith believes God in opposition to believing self. Faith opposes what "I" want. The church is living an easy life. They are comfortable in their sin. Jesus said to agonize over sin. Evidence of faith is that a man crucifies his own will saying, "Thy will be done". The church is fallen away. The day of the Lord is at hand.

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