

## 99 FALSE GOSPEL INFILTRATING CHURCHES

**There is a world-wide movement, quietly infiltrating churches with many variations.** A central feature is the installation of modern day apostles and prophets. These leaders claim to impart new revelations that are equal to or supersede biblical truths. Leaders purport to be uniquely “anointed” with a variety of unusual experiences and capacities which may include divine dreams, visions, hearing God’s audible voice, healing, miracles, angelic visitations, speaking strange languages, exorcizing demons and more. In our view, extra-biblical revelations that supersede or contradict the Bible, disqualify it from being a Christian movement.

**We uphold the unique authority of the Bible and maintain the centrality of Jesus Christ.** This paper is concerned with documenting what we see as central present-day errors in this movement. Resources are listed at the end for further study. Please note: we do not, in any way, limit the power of God to answer prayer and work miracles.

### 1. “FIVE-FOLD MINISTRY”

**A. Comment:** Ephesians 4:11-12 is used to make the claim that churches need modern day apostles and prophets. However, these roles must be understood in the first century context in which this letter was written.

**A. Scripture:** “He [Christ] gave some to be apostles, some now prophets, some now evangelists, and some now shepherds and teachers, toward the perfecting of the saints, for the work of ministry, for the building up of the body of Christ.” Eph 4:11-12

**B. Comment:** In Ephesians 2, Paul set the context for the apostles and prophets noted in Ephesians 4. The spiritual temple, begun in the first century, had a three-part foundation made of Jesus Christ, the apostles and prophets. We know them through the Bible.

**B. Scripture:** Believers are “being built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets with Christ Jesus himself being the chief cornerstone; in whom the whole building, fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord.” Eph 2:20-21

**C. Comment:** By its nature, a building cannot have more than one foundation. If modern day apostles and prophets claim to be foundational, they are of a different structure than the one referenced in Ephesians.

### 2. PECULIAR “PROPHECIES”

**A. Comment:** Prophets of the Bible most often called the people to repentance with the promise of restoration upon turning to Yahweh. Modern “prophets” are remarkably different. Often their pronouncements sound like fortune-telling or fortune cookie messages.

**A. Scripture:** “Your prophets have seen false and foolish visions for you.” Lam 2:14

**B. Comment:** Some followers in this movement are very dependent on a “prophet” for life decisions and can even believe that leaving their prophet is leaving God Himself! Leaving a person or group is not leaving God.

**B. Scripture:** “Stop trusting in man, whose breath is in his nostrils; for of what account is he?” Isa 2:22

**B. Scripture:** “If they speak not according to this [God’s] word, it is because there is no light in them.” Isa 8:20

### 3. THE DESTRUCTION OF THE JERUSALEM TEMPLE (COMING OF THE LORD) ENDED THE OLD COVENANT

**A. Comment:** Jesus emphasized the importance of the complete destruction of the temple which marked the end of the Old Covenant. With its destruction, the practice of the Mosaic Law was impossible. It has never been re-instituted.

**A. Scripture:** Regarding the temple, Jesus said, “...there will not be left here one stone on another, that will not be thrown down.” Mt 24:2

**B. Comment:** The temple was a symbol of Yahweh’s presence and had to be abolished to establish the spiritual Kingdom of God. With the Roman & Jewish War the temple was destroyed by fire in AD 70.

**B. Scripture:** “The way into the Holy Place [New Covenant presence of God] wasn’t yet revealed while the first tabernacle [the Jerusalem temple] was still standing.” Heb 9:8

### 4. JESUS WAS THE ULTIMATE PROPHET

**A. Comment:** Jesus was the prophet whom Moses foretold would arise, ending the Old Covenant. This occurred in the first century.

**A. Scripture:** Peter stated, “For Moses indeed said to the fathers, ‘The Lord God will raise up a prophet [Jesus] for you from among your brothers, like me. You shall listen to him in all things...every soul that will not listen to that prophet [Jesus] will be utterly destroyed from among the people.’” Acts 3:22-23

**B. Comment:** The prophets spoke expectantly of the days of the Messiah (the first century).

**B. Scripture:** Peter continued, “Yes, and all the prophets from Samuel and those who followed after, as many as have spoken, also told of these days.” Acts 3:24

**C. Comment:** The prophets spoke for God in times past, but in the first century, God spoke through His very Son. First century prophets reinforced His message of the end of the Old Covenant and the beginning of the New (Acts 2:16-21).

**C. Scripture:** “On many past occasions and in many different ways, God spoke to our fathers through the prophets. But in these last days [of Old Covenant] He has spoken to us by His Son.” Heb 1:1-2 (See Preterist Papers #5 re: Last days)

**C. Scripture:** “The testimony of Jesus is the Spirit of Prophecy.” Rev 19:10

**D. Comment:** With the establishment of the New Covenant, prophets were no longer needed. The Holy Spirit inhabits the true temple, believers, and teaches them through His Word. Prophets were “replaced” by the Holy Spirit.

**D. Scripture:** “Don’t you know that you are a temple of God, and that God’s Spirit lives in you?” 1 Cor. 3:16

**D. Scripture:** “I will put my laws into their mind; I will also write them on their heart...” Heb 8:10

## 5. NO PROPHETS NEEDED IN THE NEW COVENANT—THE HOLY SPIRIT GUIDES THE BELIEVER (1 Cor 6:19)

**A. Comment:** Some believe the New Covenant began with Jesus’ ministry. However, the Old Covenant was not ended as long as the temple had standing. For example, in Acts 21:23-26, Paul demonstrated his adherence to the Old Covenant Law when he took part in a Nazarite vow (about AD 57). New Testament apostles and prophets were active until the New Covenant was fully consummated.

**A. Scripture:** “The way into the Holy Place [God’s New Covenant presence] wasn’t yet revealed while the first tabernacle [the Jerusalem temple] was still standing.” Heb 9:8

**B. Comment:** Zechariah, an Old Testament prophet, foresaw a time when prophecy would cease entirely “in that day.” “In that day” was an Old Testament expression that signaled the end of the Old Covenant, and the beginning of the New. He used a shocking scenario to make the point that prophecy would be over.

**B. Scripture:** “In that day...I will also cause the prophets and the spirit of impurity to pass out of the land. It will happen that when anyone still prophesies, then his father and his mother...will tell him, ‘You must die, because you speak lies in Yahweh’s name; and his father and his mother who bore him will stab him when he prophesies.’” Zech 13:1-3

**C. Comment:** The entire Old Covenant, including the end of prophecy, had to be fulfilled before the New Covenant was fully established. This occurred with the coming of the Son of Man and the destruction of Jerusalem in AD 70.

**C. Scripture:** Jesus said, “Don’t think that I came to destroy the law or the prophets. I didn’t come to destroy, but to fulfill. For most certainly... not even one smallest letter or one tiny pen stroke shall in any way pass away from the law, until all things are accomplished.” Mt 5:17-18.

**D. Comment:** Like Moses, there was a 40 year period between Jesus’ ministry and the “coming of the Lord” in AD 70. The “day of the Lord” was not unique in Israel’s history, but had happened many times. (See Preterist Paper #2)

## 6. TWELVE APOSTLES

**A. Comment:** When the disciples met to replace Judas, they understood the twelfth apostle had to be a disciple of Jesus from the time of His baptism and witness His resurrection.

**A. Scripture:** “Of the men therefore who have accompanied us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John to the day that he was received up from us, of these one must become a witness with us of his resurrection.” Acts 1:21-22

**B. Comment:** In Revelation 21, the foundation of the city of God has twelve apostolic foundations. This appears to signify the sufficiency of the first century apostleship.

**B. Scripture:** “The wall of the city [of God] had twelve foundations, and on them twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.” Rev 21:14

**C. Comment:** The word “apostle” can be a reference to anyone who is sent, like a missionary. However, these modern movements most often use the term to give themselves superior status over “ordinary Christians.”

## 7. FALLACY: “APOSTLES AND PROPHETS MEDIATE FOR GOD”

**A. Comment:** Many present day apostles and prophets, with their “new revelations,” claim to act as intermediaries between God and their followers. Scripture teaches that Jesus is the only mediator between God and man and He has spoken definitively through His Word.

**A. Scripture:** “There is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.” 1 Tim 2:5

**B. Comment:** Followers are told they need to be under the “covering” of the apostles and prophets in order to develop their supposed supernatural abilities. Ironically, it appears none of the so-called apostles and prophets can credibly demonstrate that they can perform miracles, but their presumptuous claims seem to blind followers to this incoherence. Jesus taught that there is equality among believers and no one has authority over the other—including apostles and prophets. God/Jesus is the Teacher, Father and Master.

**B. Scripture:** “But you are not to be called ‘Rabbi,’ for one is your teacher, the Christ, and all of you are brothers. Call no man on the earth your father, for one is your Father, he who is in heaven. Neither be called masters, for one is your master, the Christ.” Mt 23:8-10) (See Preterist Papers #98, “Deity of Jesus”)

**B. Note:** These are some deceptive euphemisms for the unbiblical subjugation of followers to the authority of false apostles and prophets: “Relational Leadership,” “culture of honor,” “alignment,” “covering,” “spiritual fathers and mothers,” “covenant relationship,” etc.

**8. JESUS CHRIST IS THE ONE AND ONLY HEAD. APOSTLES AND PROPHETS ARE NOT HEADS.**

- A. Scripture:** “Christ...is the head of the church, being Himself the savior of the body [of believers].” Eph 5:23  
**B. Scripture:** “Speaking truth in love, we may grow up in all things into Him who is the head, Christ.” Eph 4:15  
**C. Scripture:** “I would have you know that the head of every man is Christ...” I Cor 11:3  
**D. Scripture:** “I [Jesus] am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.” Jn 10:11

**9. FALLACIES: “LITTLE GODS,” “WORD OF FAITH,” “POSITIVE CONFESSION”**

- A. Comment:** Followers may be told they are little gods. This teaching comes from the serpent in the garden.  
**A. Scripture:** “The serpent said to the woman, ‘You won’t really die... you will be like God.’” Gen 3:4-5  
**B. Comment:** Followers are taught to pray, not as supplicants, but as “little gods,” as if they have supernatural power and can call things and events into being. This is a unbiblical, New Age belief. That power belongs only to God.  
**B. Scripture:** It is “God who gives life to the dead, and calls the things that are not, as though they were.” Rom 4:11  
**C. Comment:** Leaders require “positive confession” of their followers. This is one way to get many reports of healing at meetings and conferences. Followers will attest to being healed because it is their “positive confession.”  
**C. Scripture:** “Truthful words stand the test of time, but lies are soon exposed.” Pro 12:19  
**D. Comment:** When rooted in Christ, we have the peace that passes understanding, but this is different from the demand to “be positive”. When an authority tells followers to be positive about what a teacher is teaching, for example, this is wrong. The demand to “think positively” is a cultic practice that incapacitates critical thought. We need to have our critical faculties active regarding spiritual matters.  
**D. Scripture:** “Now these [seekers] were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, examining the Scriptures daily to see whether these things were so.” Acts 17:11  
**E. Comment:** “Toxic positivity” is the practice of denying anger, fear, and other negative emotions. These feelings can “go underground” and cause disorder. We need to acknowledge our negative feelings in order to be free of them.  
**E. Scripture:** “Yahweh is near to those who have a broken heart, and saves those who have a crushed spirit.” Ps 34:18

**10. FALLACY: “BRING HEAVEN TO EARTH”**

- A. Comment:** When scripture states, “Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven”, some in this movement claim followers are supposed to “bring heaven to earth.” However, it is God who brings the spiritual kingdom to earth and no human effort avails. (See Preterist Papers #95 Kingdom is Spiritual)  
**A. Scripture:** “I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared like a bride adorned for her husband.” Rev 21:2 (See Preterist Papers #8 “New Heaven and Earth Fulfilled”)  
**B. Comment:** The Kingdom of God is a spiritual gift and dwells within us.  
**B. Scripture:** Jesus said, “God’s Kingdom doesn’t come with observation; neither will they say, ‘Look, here!’ or, ‘Look, there!’ for behold, God’s Kingdom is within you.” Lk 17:20-21  
**B. Scripture:** Jesus answered, “My Kingdom is not of this world...” Jn 18:36  
**C. Comment:** Based on Jn 14:12, leaders tell followers they will do greater works than Jesus. But nothing exceeds the work of Christ who provides forgiveness of sin and reconciliation with the Father. The “greater works” is a reference to quantity—the extensive spread of the “Good News” by the disciples. Our minds should always be set on the work of Christ, not on how great we can become.  
**C. Scripture:** “Looking to Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising its shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.” Heb 12:2  
**D. Comment:** Leaders teach that followers should do the miracles that Jesus and His disciples did: “heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons” (Mt 10:8). Even a casual reading of this passage reveals these were instructions to the twelve disciples for a specific place and time.  
**D. Scripture:** “Don’t listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you. They teach you vanity. They speak a vision of their own heart, and not out of the mouth of Yahweh.” Jer 23:16.

### 11. WORKS BASED RELIGION VS THE GOSPEL

**A. Comment:** Leaders often teach the Christian life requires adherents to “do the work,” spend long hours in meetings, fasting, prayer, volunteering and aspire to miraculous deeds. The effort to do the impossible, i.e. bring a material Kingdom to earth, immerses followers in futile striving, exhaustion and the feeling of never doing enough. They must work to bring about revival and manifest health, wealth and miracles. Instead, God calls us to enter His rest from which thanksgiving, praise and regenerative work springs.

**A. Scripture:** “Come to me, all you who labor and are heavily burdened, and I will give you rest.” Mt 11:28

**A. Scripture:** Jesus answered, “My Kingdom is not of this [material] world.” Jn 18:36

**B. Comment:** Leaders propagate “celebrity culture” where some people and positions are more important than others.

**B. Scripture:** “Those members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary. Those parts of the body which we think to be less honorable, on those we bestow more abundant honor.” I Cor 12:22-23

**B. Scripture:** “Whatever you do, in word or in deed [truck driver, accountant, waitress, teacher] do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.” Col 3:17

**C. Comment:** This movement is concerned with externals. The Bible tells us to put the invisible God first in our lives. Sanctification is moving from an external world-based focus to the cultivation of spiritual reality.

**C. Scripture:** “He has shown you, O man, what is good. What does Yahweh require of you, but to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?” Micah 6:8

### 12. FALLACIES: “MANIFEST SONS OF GOD,” “JOEL’S ARMY,” “GIDEON’S ARMY”

**A. Comment:** This movement often teaches a two-tier Christianity. There are “ordinary believers” and then there are “the anointed” super soldiers who subject themselves to the self-professed prophets and apostles. This often entails excessive sacrifice of time, money, personal autonomy and authentic spiritual growth. These devotees are sometimes called the Manifest Sons of God, Joel’s Army, Gideon’s Army or other designations. However, the Bible does not teach two-tiers. All believers are “in Christ”, which means all believers are “the anointed” and have the Holy Spirit.

**A. Scripture:** John said to believers, “You have an anointing from the Holy One, and you all have knowledge.” 1 Jn 2:20

**B. Comment:** This movement may convince followers that they will make disciples of “the nations” and not individuals. This concept is incomprehensible, but has a transcendent ring to it, defeating critical thought and immersing followers in illusions of grandeur. Confusion is a useful tool of control and conveys the leader has special spiritual knowledge. However, it is important to grasp that it is individuals in “the nations” who need salvation and discipling.

**B. Scripture:** “Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I commanded you.” Mt 28:19-20

### 13. FALLACY: “THE PROBLEM IS THE LACK OF THE SUPERNATURAL”

**A. Comment:** This movement maintains the problem with most Christian assemblies today is the lack of miracles. The lack of political involvement may also be condemned. Churches not part of the apostle and prophetic movement are deemed “dead” and therefore inferior. This puts the emphasis on externals instead of inner transformation (sanctification) and growth into discipleship. Jesus taught it is the heart that needs healing, not the culture.

**A. Scripture:** Jesus said, “...out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, sexual sins, thefts, false testimony, and blasphemies. These are the things which defile the man.” Mt 15:18-20

**B. Comment:** Jesus put the highest value on loving God and one’s neighbor.

**B. Scripture:** Jesus said to the man, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. A second likewise is this, You shall love your neighbor as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments.” Mt 22:37-40

**C. Comment:** Jesus taught that miracles do not change hearts. If people do not believe the word of God, miracles won’t change them.

**C. Scripture:** “He said to him, ‘If they don’t listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded if one rises from the dead.’” Lk 16:31

**D. Comment:** People respond to the gospel, not miracles.

**D. Scripture:** “...How will they believe in him whom they have not heard? How will they hear without a preacher?...As it is written: ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the Good News of peace...!’” Rom 10:14-15

**E. Comment:** Jesus spoke against the superficial concentration on outward signs.

**E. Scripture:** Jesus said, “An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, but no sign will be given to it but the sign of Jonah the prophet.” Mt 12:38-39

### 14. FALLACY: “FRESH REVELATION”

**A. Comment:** Modern day apostles and prophets teach the Bible is antiquated and we need “fresh revelation” for modern times. However, the Bible is timeless, God-breathed and sufficient in all matters.

**A. Scripture:** “The word of God is living and active, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing of soul and spirit... and is able to discern the thoughts and intentions of the heart.” Heb 4:12

**A. Scripture:** “Every Scripture is God-breathed and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for instruction in righteousness, that each person who belongs to God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.” 2 Tim 3:16-17

**B. Comment:** Leaders consistently take scripture out of context and add their own prophecies. They subtract from God’s word by emphasizing signs and wonders instead of the finished work of Christ. All this is condemned.

**B. Scripture:** “If anyone adds to them [the scriptures], God will add to him the plagues which are written in this book. If anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his part from the tree of life, and out of the holy city, which are written in this book.” Rev 22:18-19

**C. Comment:** The subverting of God’s Word is warned against all through the New Testament. False prophets and apostles do not serve God, but use flattery and trickery to deceive the uninformed.

**C. Scripture:** False teachers “...don’t serve our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by their smooth and flattering speech they deceive the hearts of the naive.” Rom 16:18

**C. Scripture:** The apostle Paul said, “Even though we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you any ‘good news’ other than that which we preached to you [in the Bible], let him be cursed.” Gal 1:8

#### 15. FALLACY: “GOD WANTS YOU TO BE RICH”

**A. Comment:** Many in these movements teach a transactional “gospel”. If you give to their “ministries,” God will prosper you. Money given to false teachers does not go to God or to those in need. We may feel moved to give charitably elsewhere, but it is not a requirement.

**A. Scripture:** “Let each man give according as he has determined in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver”. 2 Cor 9:7

**B. Comment:** Many false teachers compel giving to them by quoting an Old Testament passage out of context, accusing those who don’t give 10% or more of their income of robbing God.

**B. Scripture:** “Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me! But you say, ‘How have we robbed you?’ In tithes and offerings.” Mal 3:8.

**C. Comment:** Israel was a theocracy and tithing 10% was the tax to support those who executed priestly duties.

**C. Scripture:** Lev 27:30-32.

**D. Comment:** We live in a secular state to which we pay taxes. Tithing does not apply in the New Covenant.

**Note:** If one thousand families give 10% of their income, and the average family income is \$100,000 a year, that organization is receiving ten million tax-free (in the U.S.) dollars a year.

#### 16. FALLACY: “IT’S ALWAYS GOD’S WILL TO HEAL”

**A. Comment:** The claim “it’s always God’s will to heal” causes those who are disabled or sick to feel they are abandoned by God or don’t have enough faith. The Bible conveys that adversity can draw us closer to God.

**A. Scripture:** “We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, for those who are called according to his purpose.” Rom 8:28

**A. Scripture:** Hardship “yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.” Heb 12:11

**B. Comment:** Paul had an affliction from which he was not relieved (2 Cor 12:7). Titus had stomach problems (1 Tim 5:23). Paul had to leave a co-worker behind due to illness (2 Tim 4:20). God heals, but affliction is also part of living.

**B. Scripture:** “In the world you have trouble; but cheer up! I [Christ] have overcome the world.” Jn 16:33

**B. Scripture:** Paul stated, “I begged the Lord three times that it [the “thorn in the flesh”] might depart from me. He has said to me, ‘My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness,’” 2 Cor 12: 8-9

**C. Comment:** This movement is an “anti-gospel”—directly going against the teachings of Jesus and the Bible. It values the temporal over the eternal in its pursuit of signs and wonders.

**C. Scripture:** “Therefore we don’t faint, but though our outward person is decaying, yet our inward person is renewed day by day.... For the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.” 2 Cor 4:16-18

**Note:** Despite having unlimited power to heal, Jesus healed only one of the many at the pool of Bethesda (Jn 5:3-8).

**Note:** No faith was required of the lame man healed by Peter (Acts 3:1-8).

#### 17. FALLACY: “JESUS LAID ASIDE HIS DEITY DURING HIS MINISTRY”

**Comment:** Some in this movement teach that Jesus laid aside his divinity during His ministry and performed miracles as a man. They assert this falsehood in order to convince adherents that they too will be able to perform miracles like Jesus. However, Jesus did miracles to deliberately display His deity.

**Scripture:** “Jesus did many other signs...which are not written in this book; but these [signs] are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in his name.” Jn 20:30-31

(See Preterist Papers #98, Deity of Jesus)

#### 18. UNCONSCIOUS INDOCTRINATION THROUGH MUSIC

**A. Comment:** This movement has produced much of the contemporary music now prevalent in churches all over the world. Lyrics of a song with an attractive melody can imprint strongly on the human heart and mind through repetition. Not

surprisingly, music from these churches can propagate false doctrines leading worshipers away from truth into error. Lyrics that uphold scripture, on the other hand, enrich and edify the inner man.

**A. Scripture:** “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; in all wisdom...with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your heart to the Lord.” Col 3:16

**A. Scripture:** “Finally, brothers, whatever things are true, whatever things are honorable, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report: if there is any virtue and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.” Phil 4:8

**A. Note:** Scrutinize songs from Bethel, Hillsong, Elevation, Jesus Culture, etc.

**B. Comment:** Music can be an aid in worship, however, we can worship God in all we do—daily life and work.

**B. Scripture:** “Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men...you serve the Lord Christ.” Col 3:23-24

**B. Scripture:** Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither in this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father... But the hour comes, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such to be his worshipers.” Jn 4:21-23

## 19. FALLACIES: “DOMINION-ISM,” “THE SEVEN MOUNTAIN MANDATE”

**A. Comment:** Dominion-ism, seeks to institute a government of Christian rule based on their understanding of Biblical law. Some iterations of this ideology teach that Christians must “take dominion” of the seven mountains or spheres of society: family, government, religion, education, media, arts & entertainment and business. The ramifications of such a “take-over” in the realm of religion, for example, is unclear. What would be required for Christians to take over this sphere, when it includes Mormons, Scientologists, atheists, Hindus, Muslims, Unitarians, Catholics, etc? The historical record of theocratic rule can involve unbridled violence and tyranny, the antithesis of Jesus’ teachings.

**A. Scripture:** “Blessed are the gentle, for they shall inherit the land... Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy... Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.” Mt 5:5-9

**B. Comment:** Some teach that when Adam sinned, man lost dominion over the earth. This is contradicted in Psalms.

**B. Scripture:** “You make him [man] ruler over the works of your hands. You have put all things under his feet.” Ps 8:6

## 20. MARK, AVOID, EXPOSE

**A. Comment:** In these cults, abusive leaders often flourish due to the unbiblical top-down structure of the organization. Leaders praise each others’ ministries and books, elevating one another as heroes and “great men of the faith”. This encourages idolization of the false prophets and apostles, insulating them from criticism. Those who query their teachings, are shamed for having a “religious spirit,” a “pharisaical spirit,” a “Jezebel spirit” or being “heresy hunters”. Followers are warned, “touch not God’s anointed,” as if the leaders are above criticism. Keep in mind that the Bible teaches all followers of Jesus are anointed (I John 2:20).

**B. Comment:** Be wary of those who say, “God told me (such and such)” or similar phrases. They may be seeking to elevate themselves above others. Believers have one head—Jesus Christ. The Spirit guides us individually through our conscience, the scriptures, prayer, etc.

**C. Comment:** Covering for each other’s crimes of financial, sexual and spiritual exploitation is common among many of these leaders. Any scrutiny given to one, jeopardizes all of them and may cause doubt in “the movement” as a whole. Therefore, leaders cover for each other, making all of them accessories to the worst deeds among them.

**D. Comment:** NDAs, Non-Disclosure Agreements, are often employed in these organizations. NDAs are inappropriate for Christian ministries and may indicate wrong-doing is commonplace.

**E. Scripture:** “Have no fellowship with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them.” Eph 5:11

## CONCLUSION

Prophets speak for God. If there are still prophets and apostles speaking for God, their words need to be added to the Bible. Does anyone believe this would not be blasphemous? This movement abandons the authority of scripture and seeks to implant a false, materialistic, works-based “gospel.” There are many warnings against false teachers in the Bible. Jesus said to beware of wolves in sheep’s clothing. These wolves are godless predators who seek to heartlessly exploit their followers.

**RESOURCES—** (These resources do not necessarily have a preterist point of view.)

**1. Websites:** [william-branham.org](http://william-branham.org), The Roys Report, [hollypivec.com](http://hollypivec.com), Church Watch Central, [gotquestions.org](http://gotquestions.org)

**2. YouTubes:** “Leaving the Message,” “Mike Winger,” “Holly Pivec,” “Famine in the Land,” “The Messed Up Church,” “Long for Truth,” “Vanessa Johnson,” “Julie Roys,” “Magical Mystery Church,” “Faith Reframed,” “The Secret List”

**3. Books:** “Weaponized Religion” by John Collins, “Counterfeit Kingdom” by Pivec and Geivett

**4. Possible psychological operation to undermine Christianity:**

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ewBzjVe3LNQ&t=1258s> Watch from 10 min to 20 min.

**5. Excellent article on Dominionism by Sarah Leslie:**

<https://www.deceptioninthechurch.com/What%20Is%20DOMINIONISM.pdf>

**6. Music:** <https://onwardinthefaith.com/?s=music>

**7. False Apostles & Prophets named:** <https://churchwatchcentral.com/new-apostolic-reformation-movement/>