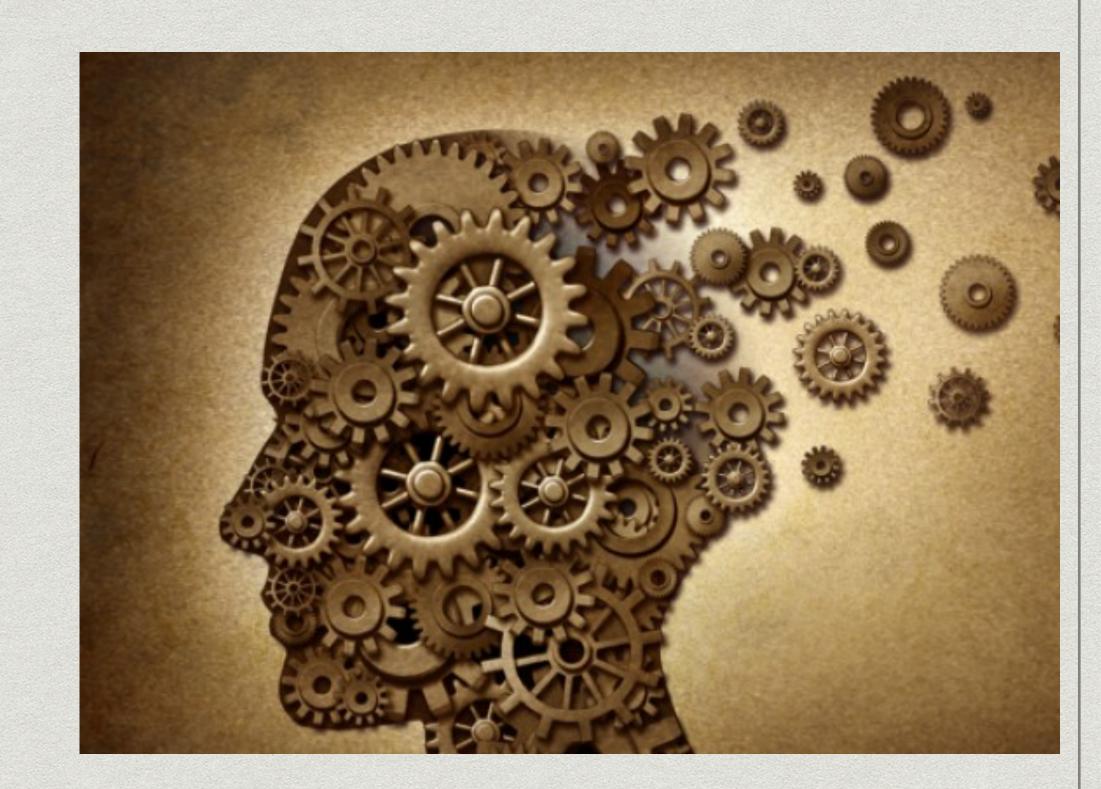
PART 2 - THE GREAT FALLING AWAY

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## Knowledge

- \* The Bible tells us that knowledge shall increase in the last days. This same knowledge will challenge people's beliefs and cause them to desire to know more than what they believe. Dan. 12:4 But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.
- \* There is nothing wrong with wanting to know more about God. The problem comes when we desire to know more than we truly understand and believe. Our core belief has to equal God's core truth or our knowledge is in vain. Prov. 1:7 The fear of the LORD is THE BEGINNING OF KNOWLEDGE: BUT fools despise wisdom and instruction.
- \* The enemy knew God's Word and yet he used them to tempt Eve in the garden. Mankind chose knowledge over their core belief and this caused the fall. Gen. 3:5 For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.



## Departure

- The Bible also warns that the days will come when the Word of God will not be available. Many take this to mean that Bibles will be outlawed or nonexistent, but it could also mean that man's departure from the truth of the Word could cause the Word to be lost as well. Amos 8:11 Behold, the days come, saith the Lord GOD, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD:
- We are living in a time where instead of men testing spirits with God's Word, they are beginning to test God's Word with their own spirits or will. Rom. 1:25 Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.
- Men are starting to place their desires and goals above God's truth. When God's truth interferes with their desires and plans, they make the Word of God fit them instead of change them. 2Cor. 4:2 But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.



## **Denying Him**

- The departure from the faith is escalating as men are constantly avoiding God's labels and stamps in order to have greater gain and be approved by the world.

  Matt. 10:33 But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.
- \* Christians are choosing to separate themselves from God's standard. Many are embracing the world and seeking the world's accolades while hiding the truth of the Word so they will not cause conviction and be outcasts. Luke 11:33 No man, when he hath lighted a candle, putteth it in a secret place, neither under a bushel, but on a candlestick, that they which come in may see the light.
- \* The great falling away is comprised of men that claim to be Christian but do not want their Christianity to interfere with their worldly success and promotion. This type of person has a corrupt core and is anitchrist according to God's Word. 1John 2:22 Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son.





The core of every believer is what drives them to stand for God. This is where our spiritual fortitude resides. When our core is strong, we will stand for Christ no matter what. However, when our core is weak, we will deny Christ when we feel it makes our way too hard. There are millions of believers all over the world, that are being killed for the faith. There are many that have to hide their Bibles and worship God in secret to stay alive. There are many that face guns, swords, and peril just to whisper the name of Jesus. And yet, in our celebrity-fashioned culture, there are those that want to separate what they do for a living from what the Bible says. They want to be "normal" in the eyes of the world and Christian in God's eyes. They want to change what they are called, how they fit in, and who gets the credit for their accomplishments. They are denying Christ by holding on to their own will. This is the great falling away.

We must continue to strengthen our core so that we do not compromise in this hour. This is the end, and this hour requires us to be stronger than ever before. This is no time for self-promotion or self-indulgence. This is the time where the Word of God is scarce and people are running to and fro looking for answers. We must be able to stand strong and be examples of God's truth in every way. Our lives and the lives of many are depending on it.

Rom. 1:15 So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also.

Rom. 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

Rom. 1:17 For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

Rom. 1:18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;