I. Comparison of True and False Church

A. Origin of the true church (2 Cor 11:2)
   1. A chaste virgin—pure and holy
   2. “Betrothed” to Jesus
   3. At Christ’s return: marriage (Rev. 19:7–8)
   4. Remains faithful to betrothal vows

B. Corruption of the false church
   1. Unfaithful to betrothal vows—becomes a harlot
   2. Corrupted from simplicity and purity in Christ (v. 3)
   3. Departs from essential Gospel truths (1 Cor. 15:1–4)
      a. Christ died for our sins
      b. He was buried
      c. He was raised the third day

C. Causes of unfaithfulness (2 Cor. 11:3–4)
   1. “Another” Jesus
      a. Oriental guru (“New Age Movement”)
      b. Marxist revolutionary (“Liberation Theology”)
      c. Universal “Father Christmas” (Liberal churches)
   2. A “different” spirit
   3. A “different” gospel
   4. Deceiving spirits, demonic doctrines (1 Tim. 4:1)
   6. Hostile spiritual climate
   7. Lack of endurance

Two Types of Religion and Their Fruit (Gen. 4:3–8)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abel</th>
<th>Cain</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Received divine revelation (Heb. 11:4; Rom. 10:17)</td>
<td>Rejected divine revelation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acknowledged substitutionary sacrifice</td>
<td>Denied substitutionary sacrifice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offered propitiation of curse (Gen. 3:17)</td>
<td>Offered products of cursed earth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supernatural attestation (Gen.4:4; Heb. 11:4)</td>
<td>No supernatural attestation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Produced a martyr</td>
<td>Produced a murderer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will bring forth</td>
<td>Will bring forth</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
II. Picture of False Church
   A. Rides to power on political federation
      1. The beast (Rev. 13:1)
      2. The harlot (Rev. 17:3)
   B. Comparison with King Ahab and Jezebel
      1. Jezebel—daughter of pagan king and promoter of Baal worship
      2. Ahab set up worship of Baal and Asherah (1 Kings 16:30–33)
      3. Jezebel usurped Ahab’s authority to have Naboth killed (1 Kings 21:8, 35)—manipulation
      4. Jezebel killed the true prophets; promoted the false prophets (1 Kings 18:13, 19)
      5. Jezebel practiced immorality and witchcraft (2 Kings 9:22)
      6. Elijah is God’s answer to Jezebel (1 Kings 17:1; 18:1)
         a. Indicated end-time resurgence of Jezebel influence (witchcraft) (Mal. 4:5)
         b. Result of witchcraft: The break-up of family life (Mal. 4:6)
   C. Antichrist exploits same political federation—with the false church as his bride (Rev. 17:12–13)

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I. Picture of False Church (cont’d.)
   A. Deceiving and dominating multitudes (Rev. 17:1, 15)
   B. Leading rulers into spiritual adultery (Idolatry) (Rev. 17:2; 18:3)
   C. Luxury, splendor, ceremony, wealth (Rev. 17:4; 18:3, 11–13, 16)
      1. Fine linen, purple and scarlet, but not blue (which represents heavenly or spiritual aspect)—compare to Exodus 28:8
      2. Spiritual vs. soulish (1 Cor. 2:13–16)
   D. Spiritual counterpart of Old Testament Babylon (Rev. 17:5)
      1. Two main features: idolatry and occult (Is. 47:9, 13; Jer. 50:2, 38)
      2. In the church: New Age Movement—mixture with pagan practices
   E. Geographically associated with the city of Rome (Rev. 17:9, 18)
   F. Spiritual descendant of Cain, a murderer of the righteous (Rev. 17:6; 18:20, 24)
   G. Antichrist will turn against her and destroy her (Rev. 17:16–17)
   H. Her judgment: Sudden, complete, permanent (Rev. 18:8–10)—nuclear weapon?
      I. God’s people warned to come out (Rev. 18:4)

II. Picture of the True Church
   A. Totally submitted to Christ (Eph. 5:22–24)
   B. Cleansed and sanctified by God’s Word (rhema = spoken word) (Eph. 5:26–27)—glorious, without spot, or wrinkle, but holy, without blemish
   C. Ready for marriage (Rev. 19:8). Dressed in fine linen—each thread a righteous act
   D. Adorned with jewels—gifts of the Holy Spirit
1. Not lacking any gift (1 Cor. 1:4–7)
2. The bride adorned with jewels (Is. 61:10 [Gen. 24])
E. Continually longing for the bridegroom (Heb. 9:28 [Tit. 2:11–13])

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