

# My challenge to you:

I personally believe Paul of Tarsus is a false prophet and false apostle. I do not expect you to agree with me, but I would ask that you take my challenge both to prove me wrong and to take the reward I offer.

I will personally give **\$100** to the first person that can provide the name and evidence of someone that matches these specific warnings better than Paul. I am willing to accept secular resources as long as they are credible published and responsibly documented sources.

Trait	Warnings in Scripture	How Paul of Tarsus matches
<b>Claimed to be an Apostle.</b>	Rev 2:2 I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: thou hast tried <b>them which say they are apostles</b> , and are not, and hast found them liars:	<b>Paul opens practically every letter with this claim.</b> See Rom 1:1, 1Cor 1:1, 2Cor 1:1, Gal 1:1, Eph 1:1, Col 1:1, 1Ti 1:1, 2Ti 1:1, Tit 1:1. He suggests in Gal 1:1 that Mathias was chosen in Acts 1:16-26 "of men" and "by man" and he conversely is chosen "by Jesus Christ."
<b>Claim was in Ephesus</b>	Unto the angel of the <b>church of Ephesus</b> write; (...) thou hast tried them which <b>say they are apostles, and are not</b> , (...) Rev 2:1-2	Eph 1:1 <b>Paul, an apostle</b> of Jesus Christ by the will of God, <b>to the saints which are at Ephesus</b> , and to the faithful in Christ Jesus:
<b>TRIED for his position.</b>	Rev 2:2 (...) <b>thou hast tried them</b> which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars;	Paul himself <b>acknowledges</b> his claim as an Apostle being challenged in 1Cor 9:1-3. Paul speaks of his " <b>first answer</b> " implying a formal hearing in 2Ti 4:16 saying " <b>no man stood with me, but all men forsook me.</b> "
<b>Offenses before 90AD</b>	Revelation was written around 90AD by John the Apostle. He was writing about the "things which are" (Rev 1:19) in the seven candlestick churches. The events described would have already happened at the time of his writing.	There are no theologians I know of that record events from Paul beyond 70AD. This would be 20 years before John wrote Revelation. See <a href="http://www.blueletterbible.org/study/paul/timeline.cfm">http://www.blueletterbible.org/study/paul/timeline.cfm</a>
<b>Many Ephesians rejected him</b>	Rev 2:1-2 Unto the angel of the <b>church of Ephesus</b> (...) how <b>thou canst not bear them which are evil</b> : and thou hast tried <b>them which</b> say they are apostles, and are not, and hast <b>found them liars</b> :	Paul's words to Timothy in 2Ti 1:15 This thou knowest, that <b>all they which are in Asia be turned away from me</b> ; This is significant because Ephesus was the central and largest city in Asia Minor. After three months of teaching at Ephesus, his teachings were rejected and he was <b>expelled from the synagogue</b> in Acts 19:1-10. If what he tells Timothy is true, those in v.10 later rejected him also.

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<b>Antinomian Doctrine (against Law of YHVH)</b>	<p>Deu 4:2 <b>Ye shall not add</b> unto the word which I command you, <b>neither shall ye diminish</b> ought from it, that ye may <b>keep the commandments</b> of the LORD your God which I command you.</p> <p>Deu 8:11 Beware that thou <b>forget not the LORD</b> thy God, in not <b>keeping his commandments</b>, and his judgments, and his statutes, which I command thee this day</p> <p>Mat 7:22-23 <b>Many</b> will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? (23) And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: <b>depart from me, ye that work iniquity.</b></p>	<p>Paul criticizes his <b>opponents in Ephesus</b> as “desiring to be <b>teachers of the law</b>” in 1Tim 1:3-7. Paul proclaimed “<b>all things are lawful to me</b>” in 1 Cor 6:12. Calling the Law a “schoolmaster” in Gal 3:23-26, he proclaimed we are “<b>no longer under a schoolmaster.</b>”</p> <p>Lawlessness is the most distinguishing aspect about Pauline Christianity and one of the primary reason Jews reject it.</p> <p>The word translated “iniquity” in KJV is “anomia” in the Greek meaning “lawlessness.” There is no question that Paul has attracted “many” to this “without the Law” point of view.</p>
<b>Confuses Believers</b>	<p>2Pe 3:15-17 And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our <b>beloved brother Paul</b> also according to the wisdom given unto him hath <b>written unto you;</b> (16) As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things <b>hard to be understood</b>, which <b>they that are unlearned and unstable wrest</b>, as they do also the other scriptures, <b>unto their own destruction.</b> (17) Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, <b>beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own stedfastness.</b></p>	<p>Peter says Paul's writings are hard to understand and acknowledged people were confused by them. He seemed to notice reading Paul's epistles sometimes caused people to be “led away with the error of the wicked” and “fall from” “steadfastness”.</p> <p>Notice Peter addressed him as “brother”, not “Apostle.”</p> <p>Incidentally, Paulinists hang their entire case for Paul's words being “inspired” upon the two words “other scriptures” in verse 16. Notice Peter does not claim in this passage to be speaking as a prophet. The prophet Elijah once proclaimed “I only, am left” in 1Kings 19:10, but the Word of YHVH CORRECTED him in v.18 saying there were seven thousand besides him. Peter here was clearly speaking as himself and not as “thus saith the Lord.”</p>

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<b>Pharisee</b>	Mat 16:6 Then Jesus said unto them, Take heed and <b>beware of the leaven of the Pharisees</b> and of the Sadducees.	Act 23:6 But when <b>Paul</b> perceived that the one part were Sadducees, and the other Pharisees, he cried out in the council, Men and brethren, <b>I am a Pharisee, the son of a Pharisee</b> (...). Php 3: 5 Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; <b>as touching the law, a Pharisee;</b>
<b>Chameleon</b>	Mat 10:34-36 <b>Think not</b> that I am come to send <b>peace</b> on earth: I came <b>not to send peace, but a sword.</b> (35) For I am come to set a man at <b>variance against</b> his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. (36) <b>And a man's foes shall be they of his own household.</b>  (compare with Paul's ecumenical philosophy)	1Co 9:20-22 And unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain the Jews; to them that are under the law, as under the law, that I might gain them that are under the law; (21) To them that are without law, as without law, (being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ,) that I might gain them that are without law. (22) To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: <b>I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some.</b>
<b>Hypocrisy</b>	Luk 12:1b Beware ye of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is <b>hypocrisy.</b>  Mat 15:7-9 Ye <b>hypocrites</b> , well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying, (8) This people draweth <b>nigh unto me with their mouth</b> , and <b>honoureth me with their lips</b> ; but their <b>heart is far</b> from me. (9) But in vain they do worship me, <b>teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.</b>	Paul attempted to <b>discredit Peter</b> in Gal 2:11-14. Not only did he accuse him publically contrary to the way Jesus instructed in Mat 18:15-17, but he also <b>accused Peter of the very behavior he endorses</b> in 1Co 9:20-22. Also, Paul declares in 1Co 6:1-9 we should be tried by our own rather than "go to law before the unjust" but when he found himself in such circumstances in Acts 25:10-11, he said "I appeal to Caesar."
<b>Private Sightings</b>	Mat 24:24-26 For there shall arise false Christs, and <b>false prophets</b> , (...) Wherefore if they shall say unto you, <b>Behold, he is in the desert</b> ; go not forth: behold, he is <b>in the secret chambers</b> ; <b>believe it not.</b>	Paul's words: 1Co 9:1 Am I not an apostle? am I not free? <b>have I not seen Jesus Christ</b> our Lord?

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<b>Sheep's Clothing</b>	Mat 7:15 Beware of <b>false prophets</b> , which come to you in <b>sheep's clothing</b> , but inwardly they are ravening wolves.	Of the "two greatest commandments" identified in Mat 22:36-40, there is little if any fault in Paul's support for the "love thy neighbor" command. <u>Paul is sometimes extraordinary in his support for the "second greatest commandment"</u> . He also said many things in praise of Jesus that are valid. Regardless of what was on the inside, the fact that Paul wore the clothing befitting of a true sheep is unmistakable.
<b>Ravenous Wolf</b>	<p>Mat 7:15 Beware of <b>false prophets</b>, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but <b>inwardly they are ravening wolves</b>.</p> <p>Gen 49:27 <b>Benjamin</b> shall <b>ravin as a wolf</b>: in the morning he shall devour the prey, and at night he shall divide the spoil.</p> <p>Eze 22:26-27 Her priests have violated my law, and have profaned mine holy things: they have put no difference between the holy and profane, neither have they shewed difference between the unclean and the clean, and have hid their eyes from my sabbaths, and I am profaned among them. (27) Her princes in the midst thereof are <b>like wolves ravening the prey</b>, to shed blood, and to destroy souls, to get dishonest gain.</p>	<p>Jesus was a Prophet and often alluded to principles already defined in the Law and Prophets. Jacob delivered a prophecy relating to the tribe of Benjamin. Paul tells us in Rom 11:1 and Phil 3:5 he was of the tribe of Benjamin.</p> <p>As Gen 49:27 predicted, in the "morning" of his life he "devoured the prey" assisting in the killing of Stephen (Acts 7:58) and many others (Acts 8:1) and remaining (v.3) unrepentant. In the "evening" of his life, Paul "divides the spoil" by offering "Pauline Christianity" while dispensationalists push Jesus' own doctrine into another dispensation.</p> <p>Interesting how the Ezekiel 22 scripture also speaking of "wolves ravening" describes the attributes of Pauline Christianity so well. The beliefs of the priests in Ezekiel 22:26 are totally consistent with Pauline doctrine.</p>
<b>Herodian</b>	<p>Mar 8:15 And he charged them, saying, Take heed, beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, and of the <b>leaven of Herod</b>.</p> <p>Mar 3:6 And the <b>Pharisees</b> went forth, and straightway took <b>counsel with the Herodians</b> against him, <b>how they might destroy him</b>.</p>	<p>Paul's words: Rom 16:10-11 Salute Apelles approved in Christ. Salute them which are of <b>Aristobulus'</b> household. (11) <b>Salute Herodion my kinsman</b>.</p> <p>According to Dead Sea Scrolls researcher Robert Eisenman, Paul's friend Aristobulus was married to Salome who danced before Herod earning the head of John the Baptist.</p> <p>The entire chapter of Romans 13 is about unconditional obedience to the Roman establishment.</p>

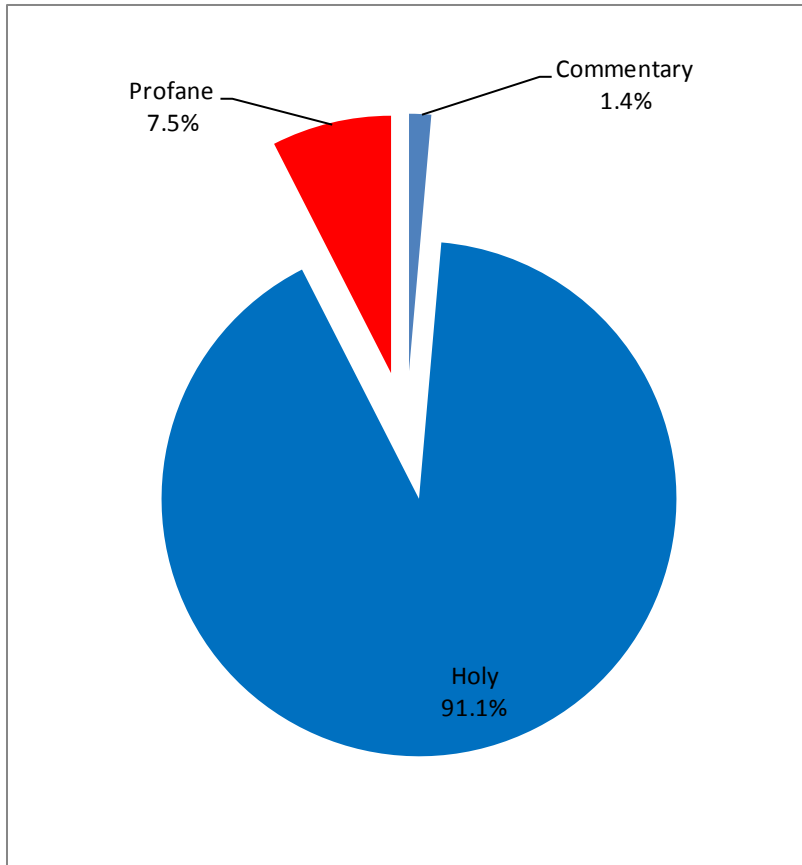
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<b>Witness of Himself</b>	<p>Jesus in Joh 8:17 It is also written in your law, that the testimony of two men is true.</p> <p>Jesus in Joh 5:31-32 <b>If I bear witness of myself, my witness is not true.</b> (32) There is another that beareth witness of me; and I know that the witness which he witnesseth of me is true.</p> <p>Jesus in Joh 5:43 I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: <b>if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive.</b></p>	<p>YHVH spoke publically as a witness to Jesus saying, "This is my son in whom I am well pleased." Conversely with Paul, there is no public witness, only an alleged private one. Does this private witness go to a trusted Apostle like Peter, James or John? No, to Ananias, a guy we never heard of. There is no indication that Luke got the three differing versions of the conversion story in Acts anywhere except but from Paul himself.</p> <p>The only place Paul is declared an "Apostle" is in Paul's own writings.</p> <p>Paul called upon prophets to declare his words "commandments of the Lord" in 1Cor 14:37, but there is no record of anyone responding to his offer.</p>
<b>Idol Meat Sometimes OK</b>	<p>Rev 2:14 But I [ascended Jesus] have a <b>few things against thee</b> [Pergamos], because thou hast there them that hold the <b>doctrine of Balaam</b>, who taught Balac to <b>cast a stumblingblock</b> before the children of Israel, to <b>eat things sacrificed unto idols</b>, and to commit fornication.</p> <p>Rev 2:20 Notwithstanding I [ascended Jesus] have a <b>few things against thee</b> [Thyatira], because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to <b>teach and to seduce my servants</b> to commit fornication, and to <b>eat things sacrificed unto idols.</b></p>	<p>Paul in 1Co 8:4-13 As <b>concerning</b> therefore the eating of those things that are <b>offered in sacrifice unto idols</b>, we know that an idol is nothing in the world, and that there is none other God but one. (...) (8) But meat commendeth us not to God: for neither, if we <b>eat</b>, are we the better; neither, if we <b>eat not</b>, are we the worse. (9) But take heed lest by any means <b>this liberty of yours</b> become a <b>stumblingblock to them that are weak.</b> (10) For if any man see <b>thee which hast knowledge</b> sit at meat in the idol's temple, shall not the conscience of <b>him which is weak</b> be emboldened to eat those things which are offered to idols; (11) And through thy knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died? (12) But when ye sin so against the brethren, and <b>wound their weak conscience</b>, ye sin against Christ.</p>

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<b>Claims Secret Knowledge</b>	<p>Isa 48:16 Come ye near unto me, hear ye this; <b>I have not spoken in secret</b> from the beginning; from the time that it was, there am I: and now the Lord GOD, and his Spirit, hath sent me.</p> <p>Isa 45:19 <b>I have not spoken in secret</b>, in a dark place of the earth: I said not unto the seed of Jacob, Seek ye me in vain: <b>I the LORD speak righteousness, I declare things that are right.</b></p>	<p>Secret knowledge is at the heart of Gnosticism. When Paul gives the Corinthians a wink and a nod about idol meat in 1Cor 8, he starts by saying knowledge makes us “puffed up” but then tells us in verse 6 a little tidbit of knowledge that distinguishes us from our “weak brother” in verse 7. In verse 9 we are said to have special “liberty” because of this knowledge but not to offend someone “weak”. This is classic Gnosticism and is very “puffed up” thinking.</p> <p>Paul in Galatians 1:1 he was declared an Apostle through some secret encounter that nobody else knew about. Paul’s whole career is marked by supposed messages from Jesus that are not shared with the original 12 Apostles.</p>
<b>Estranged From Candlestick Churches</b>	<p>Rev 1:12-20 And I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks; (13) And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, (...) <b>the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.</b></p> <p>Rev 2:1 Ephesus  Rev 2:8 Smyrna  Rev 2:12 Pergamos  Rev 2:18 Thyatira  Rev 3:1 Sardis  Rev 3:7 Philadelphia  Rev 3:14 Laodiceans</p>	<p>Where are the Galatians? Thessalonians? Collassians? Romans? Phillipians? Where are they?</p> <p><b>The only Paul-church that made Jesus’ list of true churches was Ephesus</b>, the ones that are commended for finding him a liar and rejecting his teachings. In Rev 2:5, they are warned to remember and repent unless their candlestick is removed. It is not known whether the other Paul churches ever had a candlestick or whether it was removed.</p> <p>Rev 2:14 and 2:20 illustrate the idol-meat practices had even crept into them.</p>

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<b>Follow Me Instead</b>	<p>Mat 16:24 Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and <b>follow me</b>.</p> <p>Joh 21:22 Jesus saith unto him, If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee? <b>follow thou me</b>.</p> <p>Mat 23:15 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye compass sea and land to <b>make one proselyte</b>, and when he is made, ye make <b>him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves</b>.</p>	<p>Paul in 2Th 3:6-7 Now <b>we command you</b>, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and <b>not after the tradition which he received of us</b>. (7) For yourselves know how ye ought to <b>follow us</b>: for we behaved not ourselves disorderly among you;</p>
<b>New Example</b>	<p>Jesus in Joh 13:13-15 <b>Ye call me Master and Lord</b>: and ye say well; for <b>so I am</b>. (14) If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet. (15) <b>For I have given you an example</b>, that <b>ye should do as I have done to you</b>.</p> <p>Peter in 1Pe 2:21 For even hereunto were ye called: because <b>Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example</b>, that ye should <b>follow his steps</b>:</p>	<p>Paul in Php 3:15-17 Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be <b>thus minded</b>: and if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you. (16) Nevertheless, whereto we have already attained, let us walk by the <b>same rule</b>, let us <b>mind the same thing</b>. (17) Brethren, <b>be followers together of me</b>, and mark them which walk so as <b>ye have us for an ensample</b>.</p> <p>Paul in 2Th 3:9-10 Not because we have not power, but to <b>make ourselves an ensample</b> unto you to <b>follow us</b>. (10) For even when we were with you, this <b>we commanded you</b>, that if any would not work, neither should he eat.</p>

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<b>Docetism</b>	<p>1Jn 4:1-3 Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. (2) Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: (3) And <b>every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God</b>: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.</p> <p>2Jn 1:7 For many <b>deceivers</b> are entered into the world, who <b>confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh</b>. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.</p>	<p>Paul in Rom 8:3 For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the <b>likeness</b> of sinful <b>flesh</b>, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:</p> <p>Php 2:6-7 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: (7) But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him <b>the form of a servant</b>, and was made in the <b>likeness of men</b>:</p> <p>Docetism taught it taught that Jesus <b>only appeared to have a body</b>. It developed out of the dualistic philosophy which viewed matter as inherently evil, that God could not be associated with matter, and that God, being perfect and infinite, could not suffer. Since Paul did speak of Christ's suffering, it is debatable whether Paul fully embraced this Gnostic teaching.</p>
<b>Signs and Wonders</b>	<p>Deu 13:1-3 If there arise among you a prophet, or a dreamer of dreams, and <b>giveth thee a sign or a wonder</b>, (2) And <b>the sign or the wonder come to pass</b>, whereof he spake unto thee, saying, <b>Let us go after other gods</b>, which thou hast not known, and let us serve them; (3) <b>Thou shalt not hearken</b> unto the words of that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams: for <b>the LORD your God proveth you, to know whether ye love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul</b>.</p>	<p>Act 14:8-10 And there sat a certain man at Lystra, impotent in his feet, being a cripple from his mother's womb, who never had walked: (9) The same <b>heard Paul speak</b>: who stedfastly beholding him, and perceiving that he had faith to be healed, (10) Said with a loud voice, Stand upright on thy feet. <b>And he leaped and walked</b>.</p> <p>1Co 6:12 <b>All things are lawful unto me</b>, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but <b>I will not be brought under the power of any</b>.</p>

If you decide to take my challenge, please send your candidate to [paulchallenge@wardsoft.net](mailto:paulchallenge@wardsoft.net). If I succeeded in sparking your interest at all, I will invite you to continue reading.



What churches and ministers are not telling you is the vast majority of church doctrine is based upon less than 8% of the "canon" of scripture. This includes beliefs such as *covenant theology* and *dispensationalism*. The doctrine in the remaining 92% is largely dismissed-away as being "for a different people in a different time." The words of Yeshua or Jesus are made to conform to the writings by Paul and the book of Hebrews.

As an example, "The Purpose-Driven Life" by Rick Warren has 952 Bible references total. Of them, 435 are the writings of Paul or the book of Hebrews, the category I personally identify to the left as "profane" because it denies that which is Holy. Why would **45.7% of the doctrine** in this book be **based upon less than 8% of the text**? This is **six times** the emphasis it would *accidentally* have.

Seminaries teach a doctrine of *progressive revelation*. This doctrine insists that "later revelations" expose secrets that were intentionally shrouded by YHVH in earlier ages. Specifically it teaches the words of Paul are to be followed in our dispensation and the words of Jesus were for another dispensation. When Jesus words are acknowledged at all, it twists them to fit the theology of Paul. The things which Paul "commands you" are to eclipse and replace the Holy Laws given by YHVH.

YHVH our Holy God has a different view. He describes His word as Holy and eternal. Anything that denies His Word he describes as *profane*. While the *New Testament Church* in reality discards much of the 92% in favor of the 8%, you can expect them to scream "heresy" when you start questioning "canon of scripture" as chosen by our "church fathers." Why is this?

Who does YHVH authorize to "breathe" His words? Amos 3:7 declares, "Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he **revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets.**" What writings did Jesus declare Holy when he delivered the *golden rule* in Matthew 7:12? "Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: **for this is the law and the prophets.**" In addition, very specific rules are given in Deuteronomy to measure whether a prophet is true or false beginning with Deu 4:2: Ye **shall not add** unto the word which I command you, **neither shall ye diminish** ought from it, that ye may **keep the commandments** of the LORD your God which I command you. Did Jesus ever tell us to follow Paul's commands? In Mat 28:19-20 Jesus says, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: (20) Teaching them to **observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you**: and, lo, I am with you always, even **unto the end of the world.** Amen."

Are Jesus's words Holy? Of course they are. Why? Because he was a prophet. The "law and prophets" now includes the greatest prophet Moses predicted long ago. See how simple that is?

When our "church fathers" of the ecumenical council at Laodicea met in 364 AD, they mixed the holy with the profane and bound it together calling it the Holy Bible. This was done by a "canon" or law similar to the Papal Bulls issued from the Vatican today. They declared anyone challenging their "infallibility" an "anathema" and many were persecuted or slain when so declared. Their bully-pulpit often wielded a death sentence for those who challenged it. Among their "canons" were the following:

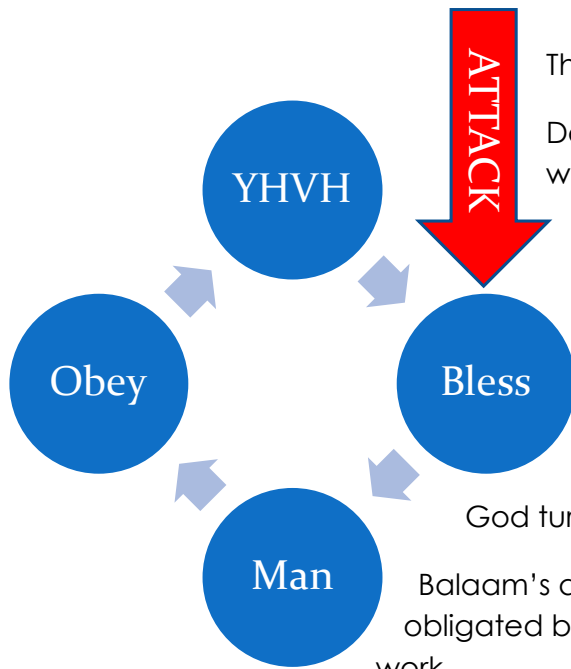
- Canon XXIX – Sabbath-keeping is illegal and everyone MUST work on the Sabbath
- Canon LX – Declares the "canon" of scripture as we know it today.
- Canon XIII – The "priesthood" is not to be elected by the multitude. (you can't pick your preacher)
- Canon XV – Only those chosen for the choir by church officials are allowed to sing.
- Canon XLIV – Women not allowed to approach the altar.
- Many canons that prohibit association with "heretics"; those who question or disagree with official doctrine.

I think it should be obvious they were FAR from "infallible." What does our Holy God say about this?

There is a **conspiracy of her prophets** in the midst thereof, like a roaring lion **ravening the prey**; they have devoured souls; they have taken the treasure and precious things; they have made her many widows in the midst thereof. (26) **Her priests have violated my law**, and have **profaned mine holy things**: they **have put no difference between the holy and profane**, neither have they shewed difference between the unclean and the clean, and have **hid their eyes from my sabbaths**, and I am profaned among them. (27) Her princes in the midst thereof are **like wolves ravening the prey**, to shed blood, and to **destroy souls**, to get dishonest gain. (28) And her prophets have **daubed them with untempered mortar**, seeing vanity, and divining lies unto them, saying, Thus saith the Lord GOD, when the LORD hath not spoken. (29) The people of the land have used oppression, and exercised robbery, and have vexed the poor and needy: yea, they have oppressed the stranger wrongfully. (30) And **I sought for a man among them**, that should **make up the hedge**, and **stand in the gap** before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but **I found none**. (31) Therefore have I poured out mine indignation upon them; I have consumed them with the fire of my wrath: their own way have I recompensed upon their heads, saith the Lord GOD. Eze 22:25-31

Master, which is the great commandment in the law? Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. When Jesus spoke these words in Mat 22:36-38, he was actually quoting them directly from Deuteronomy 6:5. If this is the greatest commandment, let's not mess it up, right?

There are only two possible relationships you can have with Lord thy God:



This is what an **obedient relationship** with YHVH looks like.

Deu 11:13-14 And it shall come to pass, if ye shall hearken diligently unto my commandments which I command you this day, to **love the LORD your God**, and to **serve him** with all your heart and with all your soul, (14) That I will give you the **rain of your land in his due season**, the first rain and the latter rain, that thou mayest **gather in thy corn**, and thy wine, and thine oil. (...)

When the false prophet Balaam attempted to pronounce a curse on the people of YHVH, he could only utter a blessing. That is because our God is so faithful to his part of what he says he will do.

Deu 23:5 Nevertheless the LORD thy God would not hearken unto Balaam; but the LORD thy God turned the curse into a blessing unto thee, because the LORD thy God loved thee.

Balaam's attack on the blessings was fruitless because YHVH is a faithful and powerful God. He was obligated by His Word to reward obedience with blessings. Satan knows this mode of attack does not work.

When that attack failed, Balaam recommended a new assault that was deadly. He and King Balak lured God's people away with Midionite women. When they fell into idol worship, the trap was set and their plan worked.

Num 25:1-3 And Israel abode in Shittim, and the people began to commit whoredom with the daughters of Moab. (2) And they called the people unto the sacrifices of their gods: and the people did eat, and bowed down to their gods. (3) And Israel joined himself unto Baalpeor: and the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel.

The attack today is similar. That's why the error of being a follower of Paul is so great. Notice Jesus' warning in Revelation:

Rev 2:14 But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that **hold the doctrine of Balaam**, who taught Balac to **cast a stumblingblock** before the children of Israel, to **eat things sacrificed unto idols**, and to commit fornication.

This is a sign that was given you so you will **SUCCEED** in the greatest commandment and be blessed.

