

BIBLE STUDY REFERENCE LIST - CHAPTER 10
The Mystery of Iniquity

INTRODUCTION

Quick reference Bible studies for the 12 Mysteries are essential for two purposes: defending the gospel against skeptics, and teaching Christians reasons they should hope in the Word of God. This book's length naturally begs for a quick reference guide for Biblical proof "*the mystery of God*"¹ has been finished, or revealed.

Below you'll find Bible study references for **Chapter 10** only. References for remaining chapters are available for free at www.pastorjessesmith.com/12mysteriesbook. You can also reach me via email, jesse.smith11@sbcglobal.net, or text 330-929-2037.

As Christians, we must verbally defend our faith. Twice Paul says he was set for the defense of the gospel in Philippians 1:7 and 17. In Greek, "defence" means "verbal defence, speech in defence, a reasoned statement or argument." The same Greek word for "defence" is also translated as "answer" in Peter's first epistle: "*But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear.*"² You can be ready to share the truth with any inquirer.

Ministers especially must faithfully test all beliefs. Paul commands us to "*Prove all things*" in 1 Thessalonians 5:21. Prove means "to test, examine, prove, scrutinize (to see whether a thing is genuine or not), as metals" in the Greek. Since the Bible is our Absolute, all revelations are proven true by the pure words of Scripture alone.

Paul's message to Timothy in 2 Timothy 2:15 is: "*Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*" Acts 17:11 labels the Bereans as a noble group because they searched the Scriptures daily to verify Paul's preaching.

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10TH MYSTERY: INIQUITY

Revelation: The antichrist spirit fills and deceives the hell-bound majority into blaspheming God's truth under the guise of a sin-loving, religious experience.

Iniquity defined, God's judgment upon it, and workers of iniquity:

2 The. 2:7 iniquity, defined as contempt and violation of the law (purposely sinning despite knowing God's will), was already working in Paul's day, around 50 A.D.

Gen. 15:16, Josh. 10:12, Neh. 9:17 God told Abraham the Amorites would be judged after their cup of iniquity was filled up and 400 years later He used Joshua to judge them; God is truly *ready to pardon, gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness*

¹ Revelation 10:7

² 1 Peter 3:15

Gen. 19:5 Lot and his two daughters narrowly escaped God's fire and brimstone wrath upon Sodom poured out due to the *iniquity of the city*

Acts 1:18, 25 Judas Iscariot's destiny was hell and the 30 pieces of silver he received for betraying Christ was his *reward of iniquity*

Mat. 7:21-23 Jesus calls hell-bound sinners "workers of iniquity," yet they have enough knowledge of God to perform miracles in His name

2 Cor. 11:13-14 false preachers lead the workers of iniquity, who are filled with Satan's demons, transforming themselves into angels of light

Rev. 18:5 Mystery Babylon is destroyed in one hour because her iniquities are remembered in heaven

Genuine believers commit acts of iniquity but repent and change their behaviors:

Gen. 44:16, Mat. 19:28, Rev. 4:4 Joseph's brothers committed iniquity by selling him into slavery but they repented and Revelation shows they are saved, crowned, and seated with the 12 apostles around Jesus' heavenly throne

2 Sam. 12:9-10, 24:10, 1 Kin. 15:5 David committed iniquity by unlawfully taking Bathsheba and numbering Israel but repented and never repeated those sins

Rom. 7:14-25, Col. 2:13 Paul admits to doing evil, sinful acts he hated but assures believers Jesus' blood forgives all their trespasses

1 John 1:8-10 John assures the same as Paul, teaching confession of sins allows the faithful and just Christ to *forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness*; we lie if we say we have no sin

Jesus' death and resurrection forgives iniquities and turns believers away from them:

Isa. 53:5-6, 11 Jesus was *bruised for our iniquities...and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all*; Jesus paid the sin debt for past, present, and future iniquities

Mark 16:16 to believe in Jesus means you're saved and you stop committing iniquity: *He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned*

Acts 3:26 God resurrected Jesus to bless us *in turning away every one of you from his iniquities*

Rev. 14:8, 18:3, 23 all nations will reject Jesus' offer of forgiving iniquities because of Mystery Babylon's deceptive, sin-loving, iniquity-loving religion

Satan, the father of iniquity:

Eze. 28:11-19, 2 Cor. 11:4 Lucifer, meaning "light bearer" in Hebrew, transforms himself into an angel of light to deceive; was an anointed cherub in heaven equipped with music ability;

Isa. 14:13-14 reveals his wicked thoughts to exalt himself to be like God; says *I will* six times

Rev. 12:3-4, 7-11 Lucifer's heavenly rebellion; he led the first church split, taking 1/3 of angels to his army; his 5 titles are great red dragon, old serpent, devil, Satan, and accuser of the brethren; in this text.

John 8:44 Jesus calls Lucifer *a liar, and the father of lies*

Satan, the serpent, and Eve:

Eze. 28:13, Gen. 1:31 Satan was in Eden, the garden of God; he must've possessed the serpent-beast because the serpent was *good* when God created him

Gen. 3:1-9, 2 Cor. 4:4, 1 Tim. 2:14, 2 Pet. 2:19 Satan becomes god of this world by overcoming Adam and Eve and taking their dominion; Adam was not deceived when he sinned, but Eve was; Gen. 3:16, John 10:10 Jesus says Satan comes to steal, kill, and destroy; Satan stole Eve's desire, or longing, which previously focused on Adam

The original sin and the forbidden fruit:

2 Pet. 1:4 sin came into the world through lust—not an apple

Gen. 3:15 God says the serpent already has seed, or offspring, descendants, or children; the serpent was possessed by Satan's spirit and tempted Eve into adultery, implanting his seed in her and conceiving Cain

Prov. 30:20, Song of Solomon 4:12-5:1 the forbidden fruit Eve partook of symbolizes adultery because eating can represent sexual relations

2 Cor. 11:3 Paul alludes to Eve committing adultery with the serpent, losing her virginity

Nine evidences for the serpent seed doctrine—

Evidence 1—The Bible supports the Serpent Seed doctrine from Genesis to Revelation:

Gen. 3:15, 1 John 3:12 Moses and John support Cain was of that wicked one, the serpent (possessed by Satan's spirit)

Mat. 13:24-30, 36-43 Jesus' parable supports serpent seed; the children of God are *good seed* while the children of the wicked one, Satan, are the tares, or bad seed; two different man plant seeds in one field, representing the serpent and Adam having relations with Eve;

2 Cor. 11:2-3 Paul supports serpent seed by directly comparing the virginity of the church in Corinth to Eve's virginity when she was presented to Adam

2 Peter 1:4, Gen. 3:6, 16 corruption is *in the world through lust*, or a desire for what is forbidden; Eve thought the tree (serpent) was pleasant looking and good for food, meaning she was physically attracted to the serpent; God declares one consequence for Eve's sin is that her desire will be to her husband from henceforth, since she sinfully desired the serpent first

1 John 3:6-15, 2:13-14, 5:18, Mat. 13:9, 38 the Spirit calls Cain is *of that wicked one*, a title never given to Adam, but given to Satan; proves Cain is not Adam's son, but the serpent's

Gen. 4:17-24, 5:1-32, Gen. 3:20 Cain has is own separate lineage from Seth's; Cain was never said to be in the image of Adam, as Seth was; Eve is called the mother of all living, but Adam is never called the father of all living because Cain is not Adam's son'

Rev. 12:9, John 8:44 Satan is *that old serpent* because he entered the serpent's body to beguile and defile Eve through adultery; Satan's called *old* because he's the father of lies and original murderer, as verified by Jesus

Evidence 2—The two trees in the midst of the garden were not literal trees because they were not good for food:

Gen. 2:9 every tree out of the ground was good for food, proving the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil was not a regular tree because when Eve partook of its fruit, sin and death occurred; two

truths about this evil tree are evident: it didn't come from the ground and its fruit was not good for food; any tree whose fruit will kill you isn't good for food

Gen. 3:6, Hos. 10:14 Eve believed the fruit was good for food, so this is symbolic of her eating the fruit of adultery; Any sinful act is a fruit of Satan, just as Hosea rebuked Israel for eating the *fruit of lies*

Evidence 3—The Tree of Life was Jesus' Spirit because there is only one way to eternal life:

Heb. 11:4, 17, 26, Eph. 2:8-9 all saints (OT and NT) have been saved by faith through grace, as Moses followed Christ, the Holy Spirit; this proves the Tree of Life was not a literal tree, for eating physical food could never give eternal life

John 6:35, 6:68, 14:6 Jesus is the way, life, bread of life, with the words of eternal life; a physical fruit cannot be a way to eternal life

John 5:40, 1 John 5:11-12 eternal life is only found in Christ—not a physical fruit on Tree of Life

Evidence 4—The Serpent Seed explains the purpose of the virgin birth of Jesus:

Job 14:1, Ps. 51:5 man born of woman is full of trouble; all men are shapen in iniquity, proving the human race was corrupted by the serpent's seed; the sin-nature is passed down to everyone through their parents

John 1:14 Jesus was the Word *made flesh*, meaning He had a Word-nature in His body because He was conceived of the Holy Ghost; Christ had to come to earth through virgin birth to bypass the way sin came into the world (sexual reproduction); Since the sin-nature wasn't passed down to Jesus (He had a Word-nature), He could live a sinless life

Isa. 7:14, Rev. 5:1-10, Rev. 3:14, Rom. 8:29, 1 John 4:4 Jesus' virgin birth met two purposes—prepare a sinless Lamb-sacrifice to pay redemption's price for all sins and begin a new human race by living inside man's soul as a greater power against Satan

Evidence 5—Adam and Eve covered their loins after eating of the forbidden fruit:

Genesis 3:6-7 Adam and Eve knew they were naked after eating the forbidden fruit and sewed fig leaves to make *aprons* or loin coverings in Hebrew; loins are the human reproductive parts and they covered their private parts because those were the body parts used in their sinful downfall; apples cannot bring awareness of nakedness; if Adam and Eve had eaten apples, they would have covered their mouths;

Eze. 16:35-41 a harlot's nakedness is discovered through whoredoms, like Adam and Eve discovered their nakedness through sexual relations

Nahum 3:5, Jer. 13:26 sexual sin and nakedness cause shame

Evidence 6—God's punishments for Eve's sin centered on her sexual reproduction and longing for Adam:

Gen. 3:16, Ex. 21:24 God issues a twofold punishment on Eve because she was deceived by the serpent—increased sorrow from conception to delivery of children and her desire, or longing, was to be to her husband; God punished Eve in sexual reproduction because she sinned sexually (adultery), as God's punishments always fit the crimes (eye for an eye, etc.)

2 Pet. 1:4 since sin entered the world through lust, Eve was guilty of lusting, longing, craving, or desiring the serpent rather than Adam; God commands Eve to desire Adam, her own husband
Gen. 3:20 Adam recognizes Eve as a mother, showing he knows she's pregnant with two seeds, as God declared in Gen. 3:15

Evidence 7—The serpent was human-like before the fall:

Gen. 3:1 the serpent was more subtle, or shrew, sly, or crafty, than any beast God made; he could talk and intellectually reason,

Gen. 3:14 the serpent was an upright creature before the fall, because afterwards God curses him to go on his belly

Gen. 3:15 the serpent was so close to human that he had seed that united with Eve's egg cell, causing her to conceive the serpent's own seed according to God—*thy (the serpent) seed*

Evidence 8—Cain was the serpent's son and not Adam's:

1 John 3:12 Cain was not the son of Adam, but was the son of that wicked one—the serpent, who was possessed by Satan

Luke 3:38 Adam is called *a son of God*; not a wicked one, like Cain's true father

Gen. 4:11, 5:2, Mat. 25:34, 41 Adam's seed are blessed while the serpent's seed are cursed

1 Pet. 1:23, Acts 1:5 since mankind's natural seed lines are intermingled with the serpent's, men are now born again by the spiritual seed of God's Word, also called the baptism of the Holy Ghost by Jesus

Evidence 9—The Seed of the woman was a literal man, Jesus, and so was the seed of the serpent a literal man: Cain

Gen. 3:15 Christ was Eve's seed foretold 4,000 years in advance; if the woman's seed, Jesus, was a man-child born apart from human male instrumentality, the seed of the serpent would have to come in the same pattern

Genesis 4:1 is the literal interpretation of Genesis 3:6's symbolism:

Gen. 4:1, Prov. 30:20 *Adam knew Eve his wife*—this is a literal repeat of Gen. 3:6's symbolism because eating can represent adultery, Adam already knew Eve was a mother in Gen. 3:20, and God said there were already two seeds, or offsprings, in Gen. 3:15

Rev. 17:3-4, 9, 18:10 the Bible often switches from symbolic to literal interpretation; seven-headed beast represents seven mountains (Rome's 7 hills) and the woman represents a city (Rome)

6 attributes of iniquity in Satan and Cain:

Attribute #1—The lawless (workers of iniquity) go through vain, beautiful religious acts and create their own traditions.

Isa. 14:14 Satan wanted heaven's religious worship (his own tradition; not God's)

Gen. 4:1-7 Cain brought a beautiful offering to God (his own tradition), fully aware it was disobedient

2 Tim. 3:1-7 the lawless have *a form of godliness*, or outward resemble of godliness but never experience God's full power

Mat. 15:1-9 Jesus says man-made traditions make the Scripture ineffective, powerless

Attribute #2—Workers of iniquity do not abide in and despise the truth:

John 8:44 Jesus says Satan did not abide in the truth; Lucifer left his heavenly position

Gen. 4:16 Cain left the presence of God after failing to repent

1 John 2:18-19 antichrists, or iniquity workers, leave groups of true worshippers

2 Thes. 2:10 Pauls says the perishing, unrighteous ones despise the truth that could save them in

Attribute #3—The lawless deny the full power of the Holy Spirit:

2 Tim. 3:5 they have a form of godliness but deny the power thereof

Mat. 7:21-23 workers of iniquity had temporary power to do miracles but rejected the power to do the will of God

Acts 7:51 Stephen accused the Jews of resisting the Holy Ghost, despite their religious acts

Heb. 13:20-21 they deny the power of Jesus' blood, which makes believers perfect to do God's will

Attribute #4—Workers of iniquity lie:

John 8:44, Gen. 4:9 Satan is the beginner and father of life; Cain lied to God, denying he knew were Abel was

2 Pet. 2:19 false preachers promise hearers blessings they themselves never attain

Rev. 21:8 unrepentant liars are cast alive in the lake of fire

Attribute #5—The wicked persecute and kill the righteous:

Rev. 12:4, 7-10 Lucifer verbally accused heaven's leadership before convincing a third of the angels to join him in war against the good angels; Satan currently accuses believers day and night in God's presence

Gen. 4:8 Cain, son of the wicked one, committed the first murder of righteous Abel

Mat. 23:34-35 Jesus distinguishes the act of murder as a key trait when recognizing the serpent's seed throughout human history

Mat. 5:21-22 Jesus warns many are in danger of hell for harboring unjust anger against others

Attribute #6—Satan's seed sorrow over their sins but never repent:

Gen. 4:9-15 Cain expresses sorrow over his punishment, with no remorse for his dead brother

2 Cor. 7:9-10 Paul distinguishes between two kinds of sorrow—worldly and godly

2 Thes. 2:11-12 God sends strong delusion to the masses who reject His truth and enjoy sin

Mat. 21:28-31 repentance is the goal of godly sorrow; Jesus' parable shows true repentance is both a change of mind and behavior

Luke 19:8-9 godly sorrow makes amends for sin, as Zacchaeus pledged to restore fourfold of what he's stolen

Rom. 7:14-15, Jude 1:23 we must hate our sins even after we're saved

Mat. 3:8 John the Baptist says there are fruits meet for repentance—the threefold requirement for repentance is a change of mind and behavior, making amends for sin, and hating sin

Bible examples of worldly sorrow (feeling awful about sins but never changing behaviors) are:

Ex. 8:15, 9:27, 10:16, 12:32, Rom. 9:14-27 Pharaoh admitted he sinned, sought God’s blessing, but continually hardened his heart against God

Num. 22:34, 31:8, 2 Pet. 2:12-22 Balaam admitted his sin, yet went to Balak anyway for money
Josh. 7:16-26 Achan acknowledged his sin but God’s fierce anger ended his life

1 Sam. 15:10-31, 26:21, 28:19 King Saul admitted his sin and rebellion but wasted much of his life hunting David; he finally repented at the end of his life

1 Kings 21:25-29, 22:8, 29-38 Ahab temporarily humbled himself but soon returned to his hatred for holiness and died shamefully

Mat. 27:3-10, Acts 1:25 Judas Iscariot repented and returned the 30 pieces of silver he earned for betraying Jesus but went and hung himself, sealing his doom

How iniquity originates in and fills human minds:

Ps. 42:1-2, 63:1, 143:6, Rom. 1:19-20 every soul has a holy thirst for God so there are no excuses on Judgment Day; if ignored, God gives the soul a reprobate mind, or mark of the beast
Luke 12:16-21, 33 Jesus describes a rich man (called a *fool*) silencing his soul’s thirst for God by choosing personal riches rather than treasure in heaven

Gen. 3:1-6, Eph. 2:2 like Eve’s sinful example, all evil acts are done by evil spirits influencing human minds; sinners walk according to Satan’s fallen angels, or spirits, *that now work in the children of disobedience*

Gal. 5:6 Christians do acts based upon love and faith, not evil spirits

Eph. 2:3 all people, at some point, were guilty of fulfilling the desires of the flesh (body) and mind; this proves all 3 of man’s parts (body, human spirit or mind, soul) have desires!

1 Cor. 9:27, Gal. 5:24 Christians must crucify the desires of the flesh and mind to serve Christ
Eph. 4:27, 2 Cor. 10:4 Christians must not give a place in their thinking to the devil, as Satan builds up strongholds, or castles, in people’s minds through habitual evil thinking; only God’s Word can destroy these strongholds

Mat. 12:25-30, 1 Tim. 4:1 Jesus teaches a man’s goods in his house, or spiritual blessings in his mind, can be spoiled or ruined by demons who enter the house; believers can lose spiritual blessings (love, joy, peace, etc.) by forsaking God’s thoughts and accepting Satan’s; Paul urges not to give heed, or open the door to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils

2 Tim. 1:7 God’s Spirit gives power, love, and a sound mind, so Satan’s spirit of fear gives the opposite—weakness, hatred, and mind trouble

2 Cor. 11:3, Rom. 12:2, Eph. 4:23 Paul urges believers to keep their minds from corruption, or Satan’s lies; renewing your mind is the way to overcome mental corruption

2 Cor. 10:5-6 God-given control over evil thoughts leads to obedience

1 Tim. 6:5, 2 Tim. 3:8 men of corrupt minds are destitute of truth and specifically resist truth, and hold perverted disputes

Rev. 12:10-11, Eph. 1:7, Col. 1:14, 2:13, 1 John 1:9 believers overcome Satan by two things—Jesus' blood, which provides total forgiveness when sins are confessed, and your verbal testimony; Jesus' verbal testimony was rebuking the devil with *It is written* (Mat. 4:4,7,10)
2 Pet. 2:12-14, Mat. 6:23-24 evil men's minds are full of darkness, or evil thoughts; eyes full of adultery, cannot stop sinning, hearts exercised with covetous practices; Jesus says sinners are full of darkness because they hate serving God
Rom. 1:26-32 Paul says homosexuals knew God's truth in the minds, but refused to retain it, so God gave them over to a reprobate mind to be filled with all unrighteousness

The iniquity-filled scribes, Pharisees, and Sadducees:

Mat. 5:1-48 Jesus' Sermon on the Mount highlights the depths of iniquity in the scribes, Pharisees, and Sadducees; the Lord emphasizes blessings upon spiritual purity; Christ specifically says the common man's righteousness must exceed the man-made righteousness of the Pharisees (5:20)

Mat. 6:1-34 Jesus upbraids the Pharisees' hypocritical giving, praying, and fasting while directing believers to true service to God that gains heavenly treasure

Mat. 7:1-29 Christ rebukes hypocritical judgments upon others, then contrasts true and false religion—there are two gates, two ways, two kinds of prophets, two trees with separate fruits, and two kinds of builders using two different foundations; men choose to be either a worker of iniquity, or a worker of God's will; workers of iniquity have a temporary anointing to perform miracles but habitually sin; believers build their lives upon a rock by hearing and doing Jesus' commands

Mat. 23:13-33 Jesus speaks 8 woes against the Pharisees for their hypocrisy and iniquity, including their greed, deceit, and pretense; verse 28 calls out their iniquity; verses 15 and 33 declare they are children of hell, or the serpent seed

'There they crucified Him' and crucifying Jesus afresh:

Luke 23:33 *there they crucified him*—this phrase captures the depths of iniquity; *there*=the most holy place, *they*=Rome with Judaism, the most holy people, *crucified*=most gruesome death, *him*=the most holy Person, Christ

Heb. 6:1-8 Christ is presently crucified afresh, or today, (the effects of the Holy Spirit) by ones who temporarily experience God's blessings only to publicly disobey Jesus' teachings at a later time

Heb. 10:29 present crucifixion of Christ is likened unto smashing Him under their feet—*who hath trodden under foot the Son of God*—sore punishments await those who deny the Spirit's continuous work of sanctification

Heb. 12:14-15 it's possible to temporarily receive God's grace but then fail to let it continue its cleansing work; grace never fails believers, but workers of iniquity can fail grace by rejecting it
Phil. 3:18-19 some who preach the cross are enemies of the cross because their god is their own bellies and wallets

Jude 1:4, 2 Tim. 3:5 the wicked turn grace into lawlessness; from such turn away

The mystery of iniquity worked in Paul's day through antichrists:

2 Thes. 2:7-8 Paul says the mystery of iniquity was already working around 51 A.D. and would continue until it's culmination in the *wicked* person of the Antichrist

Gal. 2:1-5, 2 Tim. 2:16-18, 1 Tim. 4:1-5 Paul rebuked the antichrist teachings of a legalistic requirement for circumcision, declaring the rapture already occurred, required abstinence from marriage and meat eating

2 Tim. 4:3-4 the disobedient hate sound doctrine, heaping to themselves false teachers who tickle their ears and turn them from truth to believe fables

1 John 2:18, 19, 22, 4:3, 2 John 1:7 John calls the lawless antichrists, saying there are many; they eventually leave true churches, deny Jesus is Christ, deny the Father and Son, and fail to confess Jesus Christ is come in the flesh

Recognizing antichrists by their hell-deserving and non-kingdom works:

2 Tim. 3:13-15 antichrists are increasing but the *holy scriptures* make us *wise unto salvation*
Rev. 21:7-8, 2 Pet. 2:9-22, Jude 1:1-25 hell-bound souls commit the following sins—*fearful, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, whoremongers, sorcerers, idolaters, liars*... walking in fleshly lusts, despising government, being self-willed, speaking evil of good, adultery, sin addiction, coveting, loving money, forsaking the right way, serving corruption, unbridled lusts, and other pollutions of the world... turning grace into lawlessness, fornication, sinfully defiling their flesh, despising dominion, speaking evil of dignities, corrupting themselves, greed, not fearing God, shamefully violent, wanderers, ungodly deeds, hard speeches, murmuring, complaining, walkers after their own lusts, and mockers

1 Cor. 6:9-11, Gal. 5:19-26, Eph. 5:1-8 non-kingdom works, or works of iniquity include—fornicators (sex before marriage), idolaters, adulterers (sex with someone other than your spouse), effeminate (child molesters), abusers of themselves with mankind (homosexuals), thieves, covetous, drunkards, revilers (complainers), and extortioners (robbers)... adultery, fornication, uncleanness (lustful, luxurious living), lasciviousness (unbridled lust), idolatry, witchcraft (which includes drug use), hatred, variance (contention), emulations (rivalry, jealousy), wrath, strife (electioneering for office), seditions (divisions), heresies (man-made tenets), envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings (late night parties), and such like... fornication, uncleanness (lustful, luxurious living), covetousness (greedy desire to have more), filthiness (immoralities), foolish talking, jesting (evil humor), whoremonger (all unlawful sex), unclean person (evil thoughts and acts), idolater, and speakers of vain words (devoid of truth)
Heb. 6:6 many antichrist preachers flaunt their greed, adulteries, and sins publicly, putting Christ to an *open shame*

Abounding iniquity in the end times:

Mat. 24:11-13 Jesus warns of false prophets rising up and deceiving many through iniquity at the end time

2 Tim. 3:13 Paul echoes the same warning—*evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived*

Rev. 13:11-18 American churches work the worst iniquity, for their future union with the government issues the mark for the beast unleashed upon the whole world

Eze. 16:49, Rev. 3:14-19 Israelis and Christians fall into iniquity by the same means—pride, abundance of goods, and idleness

The trail of the serpent and spiritual twins:

Rev. 12:9, John 8:44 Satan is called the *old serpent*, and he has violently slithered through human history; Jesus says Satan is a spiritual father of the disobedient, truth-haters

Mat. 13:24-30, 36-43 Jesus' wheat and tares parable describes the twin-like nature of the believer and apostate, likening them to wheat and tares, respectively

Mat. 24:24 false Christs are temporarily anointed by the genuine Holy Spirit but their heretical teachings and sin-loving lives reveal their true seed of discrepancy

1 Cor. 11:19 Paul says the reason God allows evil men to spread heresies is to reveal the two groups of the twins; the true teachers are the approved ones, the true children of God

Mat. 23:34-35 Jesus identifies Satan's murderous trail beginning at Cain's murder of Abel, continuing to His earthly lifetime, and prophesies how it will continue; the seed of the serpent are always murders

Chronological list of spiritual twins with approximate dates (wicked, righteous):

Prehistoric—Lucifer and Michael

4004 B.C.—Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil and Tree of Life

3904—Cain and Abel

2348—Ham and Shem

1804—Esau and Jacob

1470—Balaam and Moses

1430—Achan and Joshua

900—400 Baal prophets and Micaiah

580—Hananiah and Jeremiah

26 A.D.—Pharisees/Sadducees and John the Baptist

30—Judas Iscariot and Jesus Christ

31—Ananias and Peter

65—Demas and Paul

90—Diotrephes and John

Battle of Armageddon—Antichrist-Pope and Jesus Christ

Battle of Gog and Magog—Satan and Jesus Christ