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The Absolute Failure of the Early Church

It was absolute, complete, unconditional, like absolute surrender to the enemy. No portion of the church in any of its members could still be loyal to the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. The Holy Spirit could not dwell in any of its parts, in any member. Immanuel was not there. God was not among them. It became a political system in which unrestricted power was invested in a dictator.

Demise — transfer of sovereignty on death or abdication. When did the first church abdicate or relinquish its statehood, or its commonwealth (Eph 2:12) or community (4174 Strong's)? When did it formally resign from being the Body of Messiah, yielding to another spirit (2 Cor 11:4,13-15)? There was no formal renunciation of the Messiah for a false one, or gospel, or spirit. No one believed they had swapped gods for one which didn't work.

The New Covenant was the transfer of the Law from stone tablets to the human heart (2 Cor 3; Ex 34:28; 31:13-17). Keeping the Sabbath was a sign of the covenant (Ezek 20:12,20). When the early church failed to hold fast to Yahweh's new covenant, they were cut off (Isa 56:6-7). Rom 11:22 says that the church can be cut off from this covenant as old Israel was cut off from theirs. This message was first given as a written document to the Roman church, then later to the Greek churches in Rev 2 and 3. Also the epistles were written to the Greek churches, giving instructions as to just how each church was violating the new covenant, that is, the obvious disobedience to the law in their hearts.

James wrote to the whole 12 tribes — this includes all the churches of the Body of Messiah. James 3:15-16 — *Wisdom* was coming from the devil; disorder was soon in every location or place. 1 Tim 2:8 — No one could lift up holy hands in prayer, except in pretense (Prov 21:27). This letter was written well after the second century, as the condition of the church confirms. The temple was almost deserted. They all had violated the sanctity of it.

The false apostles who were undermining Paul's ministry, who were being accepted, were ministers of the letter which kills (2 Cor 3:6). These ministers were peddlers of the word (2 Cor 2:17), not sent from God (Jn 7:18; 2 Cor 3:3, 4:2,8; 10:17 - 11:1). Ministers of Satan, or servants of Satan, had moved in and they were being deceived (2 Cor 13:5; Acts 20:28-30).

The church of God in 1 Cor 1:2 — assembly, or community of the Lord (NIV) 1577 — a community made up of disciples, or saints on earth, in every place.

Undermine — wear away the base.