



THE ORGANIZATION OF THE NEW CREATION

—STUDY V—

WE have already called attention to the fact that the Church of Christ is called in the Scriptures the “Mystery of God,”* because, contrary to expectation, the Church was to be the Messianic *Body* which, under its Anointed Head, Jesus, shall rule and bless the world. This mystery, or secret, now revealed to the saints, was kept hidden from past ages and dispensations (Eph. 3:3-6), and is the mystery of God which shall be finished now shortly, in the consummation of the New Creation, in the close of this Gospel age. We have also drawn attention to the fact that the Scriptures refer to Babylon as a counterfeit system (mother and daughters—some more and some less corrupt, some better and some poorer counterfeits), and there designated the “Mystery of Iniquity.” We are not to be understood as meaning that the founders of these counterfeit systems purposely and intentionally organized them for the purpose of misleading the people of God. Rather we are to remember that it is Satan who in the Scriptures is credited with having “deceived the whole world” on this subject; putting evil for good and good for evil; light for darkness and darkness for light. Satan “now worketh in the children of disobedience” (Isa. 5:20; Eph. 2:2), even as he proffered his cooperation to our Lord Jesus. He delights to cooperate with all of Christ’s followers whom he can seduce from walking in the footsteps of the Master. As he tried to persuade our Lord that there were better ways—ways that involved less personal sacrifice and self-denial than the Father’s ways—by which he might bless all the families of the earth, so he, during this Gospel age, has been intent upon persuading the Lord’s truly consecrated brethren to adopt his plans—not to give careful heed to the Father’s plans and rules. He would have them otherwise—to feel that they can serve the Lord better by other methods than those the Scriptures point out. He would puff them up with feelings of zeal for and pride in their human systems, the work they are doing, and the organizations which they have effected...



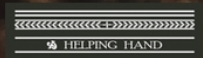
'We are not to be understood as meaning that the founders of these counterfeit systems purposely... organized them for the purpose of misleading the people of God.'

How wonderfully mistaken such will find themselves when, by and by, they shall see the Kingdom as God originally planned it and has since worked the matter out along his own lines! They will then discover how much better it is to be careful to be taught of the Lord, than to attempt to teach the Lord—to do his work in his way, rather than work for him in a way which he will not acknowledge. The success of these human plans—as in Papacy, Methodism, and, proportionately, in other denominations—helps to make these systems “strong delusions.”

*VOL. I, CHAP. V.

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(THE NOMINAL VS. THE REAL NEW CREATION.)

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God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: (2 Thessalonians 2:11)