

Each reformer ascertained a level of truth, and with it, the Gospel message became ever so brighter. However, the Church was not in need of a reformation, but a **restoration**. Some of the early reformers longed for the day when the pure Gospel of Christ would be displayed in power and authority. **Not** to destroy men, but to build them up to a **higher truth**.

[Roger Williams] conceived “that the **apostasy** of Anti-Christ has so far corrupted all, that there can be **no** recovery out of that apostasy, **till** Christ shall send forth new apostles to plant churches **anew**.”

“What could God have done which He hath **not** done, to **convince** you that the day is coming, that the time is at hand, when He will fulfill His glorious promises; when He will arise and maintain His **own** cause and to set up **His** Kingdom over **all** the earth” [John Wesley]

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The Great Plan of Redemption

THE FALLING AWAY AND RESTORATION



Following the establishment of the Church after Christ's ascension, man slowly began to **transgress** the laws, **change** the ordinances, and **allow** abominable heresies to creep into the Church, so much so that the Church **fell away and apostatized** as the Lord promised. [Read 2 Ths 2:1-4, 2 Tim 4:3-4, 2 Cor 11:2-4, Rom 1:18-25, Act 20:29-31, 2 Pet 2:1-3, Gal 1:6-9, 2 John 1:9-10]

2:2 That ye be **not** soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand. 2:3 Let **no** man deceive you by **any** means: for that day shall **not** come, **except** there come **a falling away first**, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; [2 Thessalonians 2:2-3]

As the centuries progressed and the Gospel became ever darker by the precepts of men, there were many individuals who began to see **a pattern**. Namely, what they saw in the Scriptures was **not** what they saw being practiced. Many desired the previous order of things and set out as best they could to **reform** the Church of Jesus Christ. **The following consists of a few reformers and some of their more famous quotes**



The real cause of this [the gifts of the Spirit] was, 'the love of many' almost of all Christians, so called, was 'waxed cold.'...the Christians were turned heathens again, and had only a dead form left. [John Wesley]

During this [seventh century] true religion lay buried under a senseless mass of superstitions...the Christians in this century worshipped the wood of a cross, the images of holy men... [Johann Lorenz von Mosheim]



[Roger Williams] seems rather to have conceived that the church of Christ had so fallen into apostasy, as to have lost both its right form and the due administration of the ordinances... [Roger Williams]

We argue that all Christian sects are more or less apostatized from the institutions of the Savior... The primitive gospel, in its effulgence and power, is yet to shine out in its original splendor to regenerate the world. [Alexander Campbell]

