

2 Thessalonians 2:7 - For the mystery of lawlessness [**mystery doctrines of the Church Age related to satanic strategies**] is already operational. Only He Who restrains [**κατέχω (katéchō): the Holy Spirit suppresses or hinders**] will continue that ministry of restraint until He is taken out of the way [**at the Rapture**].

27. The more believers there are in the forward ranks, the greater the restraint on sin, human good, and evil.
28. Degeneracy is restrained while civility advances within the population. Traditional standards are favored while Progressive ideologies are opposed.
29. Progressive ideas favor reform with emphasis on tolerance, but without any emphasis on cultural differences.
30. Amalgamation into the host country's culture is considered as bias while acceptance of all cultures causes the need to accept all standards as equal.
31. Taken to the ultimate extreme, the lack of restraint from lax establishment standards allows society to gravitate toward internationalization.
32. Internationalization brings a population under the protection and control of two or more nations.
33. Current examples of this idea are nations in the European Union and those who are members of NATO.
34. Yet, the Bible is clear on the fact that God has structured the human race to function under nationalism.
35. The Bible reveals that following the universal flood, God distributed the early inhabitants of the earth geographically, linguistically, and nationally.

Genesis 10:1 - This is the account of Noah's sons Shem, Ham, and Japheth. Sons were born to them after the flood.

v. 2 - The sons of Japheth were Gomer ... and the Dodanim \dō'-da-nim\ [**vv. 2-4**].

Genesis 10: 5 - From these the coastlands of the nations were separated into their lands, every one according to its language, according to their families, by their nations.

v. 6 - The sons of Ham were Cush ... Zeboiim \zi-boi'-yim\ [vv. 6–19].

v. 20 - These are the sons of Ham, according to their families, according to their languages, by their lands, and by their nations.

v. 21 - And sons were also born to Shem ...

v. 22 - And the sons of Shem were Elam ... Jókta[n] [vv. 22–29].

v. 31 - These are the sons of Shem according to their families, according to their languages, by their land and according to their nations. (NET)

36. At this point, Hebrew style is incorporated into the narrative of the story of how nationalism preceded internationalism:

Genesis 11 begins with everyone speaking a common language, but chapter 10 has the nations arranged by languages. It is part of the narrative art of Genesis to give the explanation of the event after the narration of the event.²

37. Human viewpoint asserts that one language would be best for the human race. From this, internationalism emerged in the distant past.

38. Satanic strategy promotes a one-world government over which Lucifer would eventually reign, an effort he will attempt to orchestrate following the Rapture of the Church.

Genesis 11:1 - The whole earth had a common language and a common vocabulary.

v. 2 - When the people moved eastward, they found a plain in Shinar \shī'-nār\ [**Chaldea**] and settled there.

v. 3 - Then they said to one another, “Come, let us make bricks and bake them thoroughly.”

² The NET Bible (Dallas: Biblical Studies Press, 1996–2005), Genesis 11:1sn25. (www.netbible.org)

Genesis 11:4 - Then they said, “Come, let us build [human viewpoint leading to human good and evil while rejecting God] ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens so that we may make a name for ourselves.

39. This effort defies the mandate directed to the sons of Noah to spread out to assigned geographic locations. The tower indicated is identified by the Hebrew word מִגְדָּל (*mígdal*):

The original Tower of Babel was probably constructed prior to B.C. 4000, when arts and sciences had developed to such a degree as to contemplate building a city, and especially a tower “whose top may reach unto heaven.” This phrase is not mere hyperbole, but an expression of pride and rebellion manifest by the Babel builders.³

40. The first thing God commanded the sons of Noah to do is recorded in:

Genesis 9:1 - Then God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth.”

41. This they did not do. Instead, they accumulated in a central location in Chaldea and built a tower for themselves. This brought on divine reprisal where God informs them of the ultimate result of internationalism.
42. The notion of internationalism never dies. It is a constant impediment of freedom and prosperity.
43. This and a host of other cosmic ideas plague mankind throughout the Church Age.
44. The antidote is the presence of spirit-filled believers who have made the spiritual advance to the sophisticated spiritual life.
45. It is in this arena that believers have the greatest invisible impact on the Devil’s world: the restraining ministry of the Holy Spirit.
46. It is this power that Lucifer cannot eliminate, but his propaganda in the souls of the spiritually benighted diminishes that power significantly.

³ Merrill F. Unger, “Babel, Tower of,” in *Unger’s Bible Dictionary*, 3d ed. (Chicago: Moody Press, 1966), 115.

The Great Power Experiment and the Divine Power System

1. The Incarnation of Jesus Christ was designed by God the Father to accomplish a strategic victory over Lucifer in the Angelic Conflict.
2. At the virgin birth, the Christ Child was indwelt and filled by the Holy Spirit.

Isaiah 11:1 - And there shall come forth a shoot [**First Advent of Christ**] out of the stump [Israel in its theological, cultural, and historical decline] of Jesse [father of David], and a Branch [a messianic title⁴] shall grow out of his roots and bear fruit.

v. 2 - And God the Holy Spirit shall indwell Him, the Holy Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Holy Spirit of counsel and virtue, the Holy Spirit of knowledge and honor [**characteristics acquired under the filling ministry of the Holy Spirit**] directed toward God the Father. (EXT)

3. The fulfillment of the Lord's spiritual development in His true humanity is mentioned by Luke in:

Luke 2:40 - The Child continued to grow and become strong, increasing in wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him.

Luke 2:46 - After three days they [**Joseph and Mary**] found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, both listening to them and asking them questions.

v. 47 - And all who heard Him were amazed at His understanding and His answers.

Luke 2:52 - Jesus kept increasing in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and Men. (NASB)

4. Jesus' ability to accomplish these advances at such an early age is explained by the enabling power of the Holy Spirit Who both indwelt and filled Him.

⁴ "Christ the *Branch*. A branch is the symbol of kings descended from royal ancestors; and in conformity with this way of speaking, Christ, in respect of his human nature, is called "a root out of the stem of Jesse, and a branch ... out of his roots" (Unger, *Unger's Bible Dictionary*, 154).

5. The same system that empowered Jesus Christ in the Incarnation is the same power that empowers believers in the Church Age.
6. This power source is described by two Greek words: **δύναμις (dúnamis)**: “power” and **σφαῖρα (sphaira)**: “sphere.” Together they form the compound noun, “dynasphere.”⁵
7. Since the enabling power of the Holy Spirit is a divinely provided asset for Spirit-filled believers we refer to it as the “divine dynasphere.”
8. The operative phrase in the concept is “divine power” that facilitates a “system” of spiritual growth. Thus, we also employ the title “divine power system.”
9. The system that empowered Jesus is actually an experiment that was put in play at the virgin birth and remained operative throughout the Incarnation.
10. Therefore, we refer to the divine dynasphere that empowered the true humanity of the Lord as the “prototype.”
11. “Prototype” is defined as “An original model on which something is patterned: archetype. A full-scale and usually functional form of a new type or design of a construction”⁶
12. The word “experiment” is employed to emphasize the option that the true humanity of Jesus had with regard to external challenges, temptations, and trials He faced during His earthly ministry.
13. The principle that emerged is that as long as the Lord functioned inside the divine power system He maintained the filling ministry of the Holy Spirit.
14. By doing so, He was qualified to be our Substitute on the cross, His success confirmed by the resurrection.

⁵ “When υ is not used in a diphthong, it is usually transliterated as the English y” (Ray Summers, *Essentials of New Testament Greek: Revised*, rev. Thomas Sawyer [Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1995], 2). Since there is no letter y in the Greek alphabet, to avoid confusion I do not follow this practice in my transliterations. However, Greek words that are transliterated into English commonly convert the υ to an English y as shown here.

⁶ *Merriam-Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary*, 11th ed., s.v. “prototype.”

15. Since the prototype system was proved successful, this same system is provided by the Father to all believers of the Church Age at the moment of salvation.
16. The incident that inaugurated the Church Age is described by Luke in:

Acts 2:1 - When the day of Pentecost had come, they [about 120 assembled in the upper room, 1:13–15] were all together in one place [the upper room, 1:13] .

v. 2 - And suddenly there came a loud noise like a violent rushing wind and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.

v. 3 - And there appeared to them the dispersion [διαμερίζω (*diamerízō*): **divided out separately from a single source**] of languages spreading out like fire⁷ which settled on each one of them.

v. 4 - And they were filled with the Holy Spirit, and they began to speak in foreign languages, as the Holy Spirit enabled them. (EXT)

17. These four verses describe the end of the Dispensation of Israel and the beginning of the Church Age.
18. The advent of the Holy Spirit inaugurated a new system of spiritual function for the believer. What had occurred was the replication of the prototype spiritual life.
19. The believers at Pentecost were functioning under the operational system for the Church Age. During the incipency of the dispensation, many of the spiritual gifts were temporary while others would be retained until the Rapture.
20. This means the same power available to the Lord during the Incarnation is available to every believer throughout the Church Age.

⁷ Note Isaiah 28:11, “Indeed, He [the Holy Spirit] will speak to this people [citizens of the Northern Kingdom] through stammering lips and a foreign tongue,” a prophecy of the fall of Ephraim and the events of Acts 2.