



The “falling away” (Greek *Apostasia*), literally means a “departure” or “abandonment” will occur. In the last days, many within the church will depart from biblical truth. God in His sovereignty, when He created man, gave him a free will to choose death or life. Apostasy is the consequence of a deliberate and volitional choice to “depart” from the living God (Hebrews 3:12).

BIBLICAL WARNINGS REGARDING APOSTASY

The Bible issues urgent warnings about this grave possibility designed to alert us to the deadly danger of abandoning our union with Christ and to motivate us to persevere in faith and obedience. The divine purpose of these warning passages must not be weakened by the view that states, “The warnings are real, but the possibility of actual apostasy is not.” Rather, we must see these warnings as speaking to the reality of our probationary period, and we should regard them with alarm if we want to be saved in the end (Matthew 10:22; Phil. 2:12).

TYPES OF APOSTASY

Both Jesus and Paul paint a dismal picture morally, spiritually, and doctrinally as the present age comes to a close. Paul in particular stresses that the churches will be invaded by Godless elements in the last days (Matthew 24:5-10; I Tim. 4:1; II Tim. 4:3-4).

This “falling away” within the church world will have two dimensions:

1. **Theological Apostasy** is the departure from and rejection of a part or all of the original teachings of Christ and the apostles (I Timothy 4:1; II Timothy 4:3). False teachers will offer “salvation” and cheap grace, while ignoring Christ’s demand for repentance, separation from

immorality, and loyalty to God and His standards (II Peter 2:1-13, 12-22).

2. **Moral Apostasy** is the severing of one’s saving relationship with Christ and returning to sin and immorality. Some leaders may proclaim right doctrine, yet abandon God’s moral law and standards of righteousness and thereby corrupt the truth and loose deception (Isaiah 29:13; Matthew 23:25-28). Many churches will tolerate almost anything for the sake of numbers, success, and honor (I Timothy 4:1; II Timothy 4:3-4).

STEPS THAT LEAD TO APOSTASY

The steps that lead to apostasy are as follows:

1. Believers, through unbelief, fail to take the truths, exhortations, warnings, promises, and teachings of God’s word with utmost seriousness. (Luke 8:13; Matthew 7:21-29; Heb. 3:12-13)
2. The realities of the world become greater than the realities of heaven. (Col. 3:1-2)
3. Through the deceitfulness of sin, they become increasingly tolerant of sin in their own lives. They no longer love righteousness and hate wickedness. (I Cor. 6:9-10; Heb. 3:12-13)
4. Through the hardness of the heart and rejecting God’s way, they ignore the repeated voice and rebuke of the Holy Spirit. (Heb 3:7-15)
5. The Holy Spirit is grieved, His fire put out, His temple violated. He eventually departs from the former believers. (Eph 4:30; I Cor. 3:16-17)

POINT OF NO RETURN

This point of no return cannot be defined in advance. Therefore, the only safeguard against the danger of ultimate

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apostasy is found in the admonition: “Today, if you will hear His voice, harden not your hearts.” (Hebrews 3:7-8, 15; 4:7; 6:4-6)

APOSTASY IS A WILLFUL CHOICE

It must be emphasized that while backsliding is a danger for all who drift from the faith, apostasy does not occur without constant and willful sinning against the voice of the Holy Spirit. The person whose heart is truly hardened by sin may then calculatingly choose to turn away from God (Heb 2:1-2; Matt. 12:31-32; Deut. 30:19).

YOU MAY NOT HAVE COMMITTED APOSTASY

Those who genuinely become concerned about their spiritual condition and find in their hearts the desire to return to God in repentance have sure evidence they have not committed the unpardonable sin or apostasy. Scripture clearly affirms that God does not want anyone to perish and declares that God joyfully receives the prodigal who repents and returns to Him (Luke 15:11-32; James 5:19-20; II Peter 3:19).



Apostasy is a very important message for this hour, yet it is amazing how many Christians do not want to hear teaching on this subject. We have produced 4 sessions on CD/DVD with well over 100 scriptures on power point that are available for study. You may complete the order form in this issue to obtain this vital series.

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Itinerary

MAY
May 2
Augusta, GA
The Good News Church

May 3
Augusta, GA
AFCM Minister’s Meeting

May 4
Linden, AL
AFCM Minister’s Meeting

May 8
Tulsa, OK
AFCM Minister’s Meeting

May 15 AM
McMinnville, OR
McMinnville Christian Faith Center

May 15 PM
Portland, OR
Portland Word of Faith Church

May 17-18
Oregon
AFCM Overnighter

May 19
Bend, OR
Cascade Praise Christian Center

May 23
Surrey, BC
Lighthouse of Faith Fellowship

May 25
Surrey, BC
AFCM Minister’s Meeting

May 27-28
Calgary, AB
AFCM Overnighter

May 30
Calgary, BC
Christ Alive International Ministries

JUNE
June 2
Great Falls, MT
Xtreme Life Church

June 4
Helena, MT
AFCM Minister’s Meeting

June 6
Helena, MT
Fortress of Joy Church

June 13
Billings, MT
Victory Chapel

June 20
Lakeville, MN
Glory to Glory Christian Center

June 21-24
Willmar, MN
AFCM MIDWEST FAMILY REUNION

June 27
Detroit Lakes, MN
Lakes Area Word Fellowship ITC Graduation

View the latest itinerary online at afcminternational.org

KEEPING YOUR SALVATION

Our free will either allows God to give us His best, or allows Satan, through our flesh, to get between us and God and prevent God from giving us His best. If you should miss it, thank God for His grace and mercy (Ephesians 2:4-10)!

Read James 4:6-10 in the Amplified Bible. It is emphasized both in the Old and New Testament that God hates pride, resists the proud and gives grace to the humble. Pride causes God to turn from our prayers and withhold His grace. To be exalted in our own mind or to seek the honor and esteem of others in order to satisfy our pride is to shut out the help of God. But for those who humbly submit to God and draw near to Him, He gives abundant grace, mercy, and help in every situation of life.

CONCLUSION

“But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit. Keeping yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.” Jude 20-21 ^{AM}

OVER THE PAST 13 YEARS, RON AND ANNETTE THIESEN HAVE TRAVELED ALL OVER THE AMAZON BASIN RAISING UP OVER 50 CHURCHES AND TRAINING LEADERS IN 120 VILLAGES. THEY HAVE BEEN OFFICIAL AFCM PERU DIRECTORS SINCE 2006.

THREE YEARS AGO, THE LORD PLACED A VISION IN ANNETTE'S HEART FOR RAISING UP WOMEN IN THE AMAZON TO REACH THEIR DESTINY AND PREPARE A MIGHTY ARMY FOR THE END TIME HARVEST. THUS DAUGHTERS OF DESTINY WAS BORN AND HAS TOUCHED HUNDREDS OF LADIES SINCE THEN.



doubt, that music would be my tool to reach the youth of today. With a right heart and renewed mind, I began.

I use music, mostly Hip Hop (Rap), to present the gospel. Songs with lyrics that are filled with the Word of God, personal testimony, and encouragement to know and share Christ. My heart is to see young

“I’ve always felt comfortable around youth ministry. When I was saved, I naturally wanted to get involved. As I grew in my walk, so did my heart for the teens. In my teenage years I was exposed to an abundance of music. After I began my relationship with the Lord, I gave up music as a god in my life. Over time I just knew without a

people rise up with such boldness and excitement that they can’t help but share their faith. I don’t aim to conform to the world, but to set a standard in the presentation of the gospel musically.

I have two main purposes for this ministry:
*To bring the good news of the gospel to the lost in an interesting and unique format.
*To teach and encourage the church to do the same. To be stirred up and go out to be a bold witness for Christ.”

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I AM AFCM

Greetings from Hospital Shalom. We are pleased to announce we have a new Medical Director; Dr. Efrain Figueroa. Efrain is an old friend that God has directed to become more involved with Hospital Shalom and the ministry in the Peten. Doris and I are very excited to see the hand of God moving on our behalf. In the three years Hospital Shalom has been open we have ministered to more than 20,000 patients and their families. January 17, 2010, marked 23 years of service and ministry for Doris and me in Guatemala. Through it all, God has been faithful!

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The evangelism outreach of World Witness Training Center in Kenya was tremendous this year. The gospel was proclaimed to over 180 people of which over 140 responded to receive Jesus as Lord!

This response inspired the local church members to establish an outreach program on a regular basis. One unforgettable moment was when the village witch doctor received the Lord and surrendered his fetishes. Just like in Biblical times, they were set on fire and burned up. Another moment to remember was when the local brew master

(bootlegger) and her customers received Jesus and poured out their brew.

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