The Church in the Last Days: Apostasy

2 Timothy 3:13

But evil men and impostors will proceed from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.

2 Thessalonians 2:1-3a

- 1. Now we request you, brethren, with regard to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him,
- 2. that you not be quickly shaken from your composure or be disturbed either by a spirit or a message or a letter as if from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come.
- 3. Let no one in any way deceive you, for *it will not come* unless the apostasy comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction,

Matthew 24:14

This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come.

4 <u>Luke 18:8</u>

3

"I tell you that He will bring about justice for them quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on the earth?"

Acts 20:28-31

- 28. "Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.
- 29. "I know that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock;
- 30. and from among your own selves men will arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them.
- 31. "Therefore be on the alert, remembering that night and day for a period of three years I did not cease to admonish each one with tears.

Jude 4

5 For certain persons have crept in unnoticed, those who were long beforehand marked out for this condemnation, ungodly persons who turn the grace of our God into licentiousness and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.

Revelation 2:20

But I have *this* against you, that you tolerate the woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, and she teaches and leads My bond-servants astray so that they commit *acts of* immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols.

Acts 20:29-31

- 29. "I know that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock;
- 30. and from among your own selves men will arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them.
- 31. "Therefore be on the alert, remembering that night and day for a period of three years I did not cease to admonish each one with tears.

Romans 16:17-18

- 17. Now I urge you, brethren, keep your eye on those who cause dissensions and hindrances contrary to the teaching which you learned, and turn away from them.
- 18. For such men are slaves, not of our Lord Christ but of their own appetites; and by their smooth and flattering speech they deceive the hearts of the unsuspecting.

Galatians 1:6-9

6

- 6. I am amazed that you are so quickly deserting Him who called you by the grace of Christ, for a different gospel;
- 7. which is *really* not another; only there are some who are disturbing you and want to distort the gospel of Christ.
- 8. But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, he is to be accursed!
- 9. As we have said before, so I say again now, if any man is preaching to you a gospel contrary to what you received, he is to be accursed!

Revelation 2:1-7

- 1. "To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: **The** One who holds the seven stars in His right hand, the One who walks among the seven golden lampstands, says this:
- 2. 'I know your deeds and your toil and perseverance, and that you cannot tolerate evil men, and you put to the test those who call themselves apostles, and they are not, and you found them *to be* false;
- 3. and you have perseverance and have endured for My name's sake, and have not grown weary.
- 7 4. 'But I have *this* against you, that you have left your first love.
 - 5. 'Therefore remember from where you have fallen, and repent and do the deeds you did at first; or else I am coming to you and will remove your lampstand out of its place—unless you repent.
 - 6. 'Yet this you do have, that you hate the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.
 - 7. 'He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, I will grant to eat of the tree of life which is in the Paradise of God.'

Galatians 1:6-10

- 6. I am amazed that you are so quickly deserting Him who called you by the grace of Christ, for a different gospel;
- 7. which is *really* not another; only there are some who are disturbing you and want to distort the gospel of Christ.
- 8 8. But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, he is to be accursed!
 - 9. As we have said before, so I say again now, if any man is preaching to you a gospel contrary to what you received, he is to be accursed!
 - 10. For am I now seeking the favor of men, or of God? Or am I striving to please men? If I were still trying to please men, I would not be a bond-servant of Christ.

2 Corinthians 11:3

But I am afraid that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be led astray from the simplicity and purity *of devotion* to Christ.

1 Timothy 4:1

But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons,

Ephesians 4:26-27

26. BE ANGRY, AND *yet* DO NOT SIN; do not let the sun go down on your anger, 27. and do not give the devil an opportunity.

Acts 20:29

10

I know that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock;

1 Timothy 1:19-20

- 19. keeping faith and a good conscience, which some have rejected and suffered shipwreck in regard to their faith.
- 20. Among these are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I have handed over to Satan, so that they will be taught not to blaspheme.

2 Timothy 2:17-18

- 17. and their talk will spread like gangrene. Among them are Hymenaeus and Philetus,
- 18. *men* who have gone astray from the truth saying that the resurrection has already taken place, and they upset the faith of some.

2 Timothy 4:3-4

- 3. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but *wanting* to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires,
- 11 4. and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths.

1 Timothy 4:1-2

- 1. But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons,
- 2. by means of the hypocrisy of liars seared in their own conscience as with a branding iron,

Jude 3

- 12 Beloved, while I was making every effort to write you about our common salvation, I felt the necessity to write to you appealing that you contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all handed down
 - to write to you appealing that you contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all handed down to the saints.

2 Timothy 3:4-5

- 4. treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,
- 5. holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; Avoid such men as these.

2 Peter 3:5

For when they maintain this, it escapes their notice that by the word of God *the* heavens existed long ago and *the* earth was formed out of water and by water,

<u>Jude 4</u>

For certain persons have crept in unnoticed, those who were long beforehand marked out for this condemnation, ungodly persons who turn the grace of our God into licentiousness and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.

2 Peter 2:1

But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will also be false teachers among you, who will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing swift destruction upon themselves.

2 Peter 3:3-4

- 3. Know this first of all, that in the last days mockers will come with *their* mocking, following after their own lusts,
- 4. and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For *ever* since the fathers fell asleep, all continues just as it was from the beginning of creation."

2 Timothy 4:3-4

- 3. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but *wanting* to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires,
- 4. and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths.

↑ 12

2 Timothy 3:1-5

- 1. But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come.
- 2. For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy,
- 3. unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good,
- 4. treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,
- 5. holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; Avoid such men as these.

<u>James 5:1-8</u>

- 1. Come now, you rich, weep and howl for your miseries which are coming upon you.
- 2. Your riches have rotted and your garments have become moth-eaten.
- 3. Your gold and your silver have rusted; and their rust will be a witness against you and will consume your flesh like fire. It is in the last days that you have stored up your treasure!
- 4. Behold, the pay of the laborers who mowed your fields, *and* which has been withheld by you, cries out *against you*; and the outcry of those who did the harvesting has reached the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth.
- 5. You have lived luxuriously on the earth and led a life of wanton pleasure; you have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter.
- 6. You have condemned and put to death the righteous *man*; he does not resist you.
- 7. Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious produce of the soil, being patient about it, until it gets the early and late rains.
- 8. You too be patient; strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near.