

ROAD TO COMPLETE APOSTASY

2Tim 4:3-4

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Many oppose this, they say one can't fall, that it is impossible to apostatize (Quote from: THE Standard Manual For Baptist Churches BY Edward T. Hiscox, page 67: "We believe the Scriptures teach that such as are truly regenerate, being born of the Spirit, will not utterly fall away and perish, but will endure unto the end")
- B. That is doctrine of "once saved, always saved:"
- C. Many church members live as if they believe this
- D. Text shows that one can fall and shows the process by which this apostasy comes

DISCUSSION:

I. TO FALL ONE MUST HAVE REACHED A POSITION FROM WHICH TO FALL

- A. We become children of God by faith Gal 3:26
- B. Bible only source of faith Rom 10:17
- C. To please God we must walk by faith 2Cor 5:7
- D. Those who walk by faith remain free from guilt of sin Rom 1:16,17; 1Jhn 1:7

II. FOUR STEPS TO APOSTASY 2Tim 4:3-4

- A. Wrong attitude (will not endure sound doctrine)
 - 1. A compromising attitude toward the preaching of the gospel
 - a. "Preach Bible - let everybody else alone"
 - b. "Don't preach negative" don't tell us what not to do
 - c. "Preach positive"
 - 2. Must reprove, rebuke & exhort 2Tim 4:2
 - 3. Must preach whole counsel Acts 20:27
 - 4. Truth important 2Thess 2:10; Matt 5:6; Prov 23:23
 - 5. Some today become angry at preaching of truth
- B. False teachers (heap to themselves teachers)
 - 1. When preaching of truth angers - they get rid of preacher - find someone to "tickle ears"
 - 2. Israel did this Isa 30:10; Jer 5:31
 - 3. Warnings: Jesus Matt 7:15; Paul Tit 1:11; Peter 2Pet 2:1-3
 - 4. Many congregations have apostatized because the preacher tried to please the people instead of trying to save the people
- C. Turn from truth (turn away their ears from truth)
 - 1. When one has no desire for truth - will not listen
 - 2. Only truth makes free Jhn 8:32
 - 3. Purified by obeying truth 1Pet 1:22

- 4. No more sacrifice after knowledge and willful sin Heb 10:26 - Nothing else to save
- D. Turn to fables (acceptance of any & everything taught)
 - 1. God will allow this 2Thess 2:11,12
 - 2. When truth is unagreeable then the wildest fancies or most childish beliefs are acceptable
 - 3. We can't turn to the old law Gal 5:4
 - 4. The law of Christ will judge us Jhn 12:48

III. COMPLETE APOSTASY

- A. Bible warns of this 1Tim 4:1-7; 2Pet 3:15-18
- B. Difficulty of restoring Heb 6:4-6
- C. Solution: Remain steadfast in our desire for truth Matt 5:6

CONCLUSION:

- A. We must take heed lest we fall 1Cor 10:12
- B. Always keep the right attitude - a desire for truth; beware of false teachers; refuse to turn from truth; and then fables will hold no interest for us
- C. We must always be on guard because our enemy is always there 1Pet 5:8,9