

Causes of Apostasy

In the last issue there was a focus on the “Cycle of Apostasy:” In like manner Christ (Matt. 24:9-10), Peter (2 Pet. 3:17), John (1 Jn. 2:18-19), Paul (2 Thess. 2:3-5, 1 Tim. 4:1-3), Jude (1:6), and the Hebrew prophet (Heb. 6:4-8) warned about the impending cycles of apostasy: “a falling away, a withdrawal, a defection” (ISBE). The question that needs to be addressed: what were/are the causes of apostasy?

Here are just a few:

- 1) False teachers: Matt. 24:11; 2 Pet. 2:1-3
- 2) Temptation: Lk. 8:13
- 3) Lack of Diligence: Heb. 6:11-12
- 4) Evil heart of Unbelief: Heb. 3:12-14
- 5) Unwise companionship: 1 Cor. 15:33; 2 Cor. 6:14-18
- 6) Forsaking assembled exhortation: Heb. 10:25
- 7) Worldly living: Matt. 13:22

Understand the Cycle of Apostasy: From...

- 1) Bondage to spiritual faith: 2 Tim. 2:24-26; Rom. 6:5-6
- 2) Spiritual faith to great courage: Heb. 10:32-39
- 3) Courage to liberty: Rom. 6:15-18
- 4) Liberty to abundance: Rev. 3:14-17
- 5) Abundance to arrogance: 1 Tim. 6:3-10
- 6) Arrogance to wickedness: 1 Pet. 2:16
- 7) Wickedness to bondage: 2 Pet. 2:17-22 ret