

## Are You A Peter or A Judas?

A Biblical View of Apostasy and  
The Perseverance of The Saints

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### What Is Apostasy?

#### **Apostasy Used In Two Ways:**

1. Political or military revolt

2 Thessalonians 2:3 Let no one in any way  
deceive you, for it cannot be present unless  
the apostasy comes first, and the man of  
lawlessness is revealed, the son of  
destruction.

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### What Is Apostasy?

2. Apostasy is the deliberate abandonment and  
repudiation of formerly held beliefs.

Isaiah 1:2, 4 Listen, O heavens, and hear, O  
earth; for the LORD speaks, "Sons I have  
reared and brought up, but they have revolted  
against Me... Alas, sinful nation, people  
weighed down with iniquity, offspring of  
evildoers, sons who act corruptly! They have  
abandoned the LORD, they have despised  
the Holy One of Israel, they have turned away  
from Him.

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## Apostasy In Faith And Obedience

Jeremiah 2:19 Your own wickedness will correct you, and your apostasies will reprove you; know therefore and see that it is evil and bitter for you to forsake the LORD your God, and the dread of Me is not in you," declares the Lord GOD of hosts.

Heb 3:12 Take care, brethren, that there not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God.

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## What Is Saving Faith?

### 1. *Notitia*

### 2. *Assensus*

### 3. *Fiducia*

Acts 17:30 Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all people everywhere should repent,

James 2:19 You believe that God is one. You do well; the demons also believe, and shudder.

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## Sinning With A High Hand

Exodus 14:8 The LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh, king of Egypt, and he chased after the sons of Israel as the sons of Israel were going out boldly.

Numbers 15:30 But the person who does anything defiantly, whether he is native or an alien, that one is **blaspheming the Lord**; and that person shall be cut off from among his people.

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### Apostates Despise God's Word

Numbers 15:31 Because he has despised the word of the LORD and has broken His commandment, that person shall be completely cut off; his guilt will be on him.

Hebrews 10:29 How much severer punishment do you think he will deserve who has trampled under foot the Son of God, and has regarded as unclean the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has **insulted the Spirit of grace?**

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### Who Falls Into Apostasy?

Mark 3:28-30 Truly I say to you, all sins shall be forgiven the sons of men, and whatever blasphemies they utter; but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit **never has forgiveness**, but is guilty of an eternal sin"—because they were saying, "He has an unclean spirit."

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|--------------------------|-------------|
| 1. "Never has"           | Blasphemers |
| 2. "Only seemed to have" | Apostates   |

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### Real Warnings To Be Heeded

2 Peter 2:20-22 For if, after they have escaped the defilements of the world by the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and are overcome, the last state has become worse for them than the first. For it would be better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn away from the holy commandment handed on to them.

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### Apostates Show Their True Colors

2 Peter 2:22 It has happened to them according to the true proverb, "A dog returns to its own vomit," and, "A sow, after washing, returns to wallowing in the mire."

#### Real Warnings

1. Elect always heed (by God's grace)
2. Apostates never heed (by their own sin)

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### Apostates Were Never Believers

Luke 8:11-13 Now the parable is this: the seed is the word of God. Those beside the road are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their heart, so that they will not believe and be saved. Those on the rocky soil are those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no firm root; they believe for a while, and in time of temptation fall away.

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### Apostates Were Never Believers

John 6:64... But there are some of you who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were who did not believe, and who it was that would betray Him.

1 John 2:19 They went out from us, **but they were not really of us**; for if they had been of us, they would have remained with us; but they went out, so that it would be shown that they all are not of us.

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### Warnings About Apostates

1. They engage in sensuality – 2 Pet. 2:2
2. They dupe with false words – 2 Pet. 2:2
3. They reject authority – Jude 8
4. They blaspheme – Jude 8
5. They are greedy – 2 Peter 2:14
6. They leave the assembly – 1 John 2:19
7. They reject the true Christ – 1 John 4:2

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### True Believers “Persevere”

John 8:31 So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, “If you continue in My word, **then you are truly disciples of Mine**;

Colossians 1:23 ...if indeed you continue in the faith firmly established and steadfast, and not moved away from the hope of the gospel that you have heard, which was proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, was made a minister.

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### God Preserves Believers

John 17:15 I do not ask You to take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil one.

In Satan

In Christ

1 John 5:18 We know that no one who is born of God sins; but He who was born of God keeps him, and the evil one does not touch him.

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### True Believers Are Kept By God

Romans 8:29-30 For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren; and **these whom He predestined**, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified.

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### The Call To Grow

2 Peter 1:5-7 Now for this very reason also, applying all diligence, in your faith supply moral excellence, and in your moral excellence, knowledge, and in your knowledge, self-control, and in your self-control, perseverance, and in your perseverance, godliness, and in your godliness, brotherly kindness, and in your brotherly kindness, love..

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### Making Our Election Sure

2 Peter 1:8-10 For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they render you neither useless nor unfruitful in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. For he who lacks these qualities is blind or short-sighted, having forgotten his purification from his former sins. Therefore, brethren, be all the more diligent to make certain about His calling and choosing you; for as long as you **practice these things, you will never stumble.**

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