

Perilous Times of Falling Away II

Since creation, the earth has been the battle ground between God and Satan.

Commingling has existed as a tactic of Satan, mix truth and a lie, **embrace** the lie versus the truth, and finally **believe** the lie, and teach the lie rather than the truth.

KJV I Timothy 4:1 Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times **some shall depart from the faith**, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;

I

God calls mankind to **respond** to His word and truth.

Satan tries to lure them to follow his lies.

KJV Genesis 3:1 Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, **Yea, hath God said**, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

Satan comes **questioning** God's word.

Some claim the **perversion** of Satan to be the truth of God.

Sadly, some followers of truth, turn away from the truth of God, and follow the lies of Satan.

KJV Chronicles 25:1 Amaziah was twenty and five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned twenty and nine years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Jehoaddan of Jerusalem. And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, but not with a perfect heart. ² **And**

he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, but not with a perfect heart.

He had external behavior, without internal convictions.

KJV 2 Chronicles 25:14 Now it came to pass, after that Amaziah was come from the slaughter of the Edomites, that **he brought the gods of the children of Seir**, and **set them up** to be his gods, and **bowed down himself** before them, and burned incense unto them.

This was an act of the leaders will.

KJV 2 Chronicles 25:27a Now aftershock the time that Amaziah did turn away from following the LORD...

Perilous times come when leaders fall away from following the Lord.

II

KJV I Timothy 4:1 Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times **some shall depart from the faith**, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;

To fall away means *g0868. ἀφίστημι ahistēmi means to depart, to remove oneself from the position originally occupied to another place.*

- Judas Iscariot departed.

KJV John 6:70 Jesus answered them, Have not I chosen you twelve, and one of you is a devil? ⁷¹ -- He spake of Judas Iscariot the son of Simon: for he it was that should betray him, being one of the twelve.

- Demas departed.

2 Timothy 4:10a For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica:

How do leaders fall away?

KJV **Luke 8:13** They on the rock are they, which, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, which for a while believe, and in time of temptation **fall away**.

When leaders don't develop depth, they drift, depart, and fall away.

III

Falling away, or departing from the faith, is an **intentional** act by leaders.

When leaders fall away, they persuade others to follow them because leaders are **influencers**.

NIV **Jude 3** Dear friends, although I was very eager to write to you about the salvation we share, I felt compelled to write and urge you to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to God's holy people. ⁴ For certain individuals whose condemnation was written about long ago have secretly slipped in among you. **They are ungodly people**, who pervert the grace of our God into a **license for immorality and deny Jesus Christ** our only Sovereign and Lord.

Amp **Jude 3** Beloved, while I was making every effort to write you about our common salvation, I was compelled to write to you [urgently] **appealing that you fight strenuously for** [the defense of] the faith which was once for all handed down to the saints [the faith that is the sum of Christian belief that was given verbally to believers]. ⁴ For **certain people** have crept in unnoticed [just as if they were sneaking in by a side door]. They are **ungodly persons** whose condemnation was predicted long ago, **for they distort the grace of our God into**

decadence and immoral freedom [viewing it as an opportunity to do whatever they want], and **deny and disown our only Master** and Lord, Jesus Christ.

Falling away starts with **drifting**.

Falling away happens by **refusing** to get back on courses.

Departing from the faith is a doctrinal or belief shift or **permanent** change, in what we believe and practice.

We can advance if we contend, fight strenuously to defend our faith.

*Rhema Christian Center
Bishop La Fayette Scales
Saturday & Sunday, July 15 & 16, 2023
9:30 a.m.*