

Doctrinal Studies

Apostasy

1. Apostasy is always some form of rejection of God's message. A person who is an apostate is non-perceptive to the Word of God. He is not interested in daily consistent growth. There is a continual, perpetual rejection and rebellion to the Word of God and the communicator of the Word (Heb 12:4-15).
2. There is a difference between apostasy and carnality just as there is a difference between spirituality and maturity.
 - a) An apostate is a non-perceptive Christian naturally out of tune and harmony with God and His Word.
 - b) Carnality is the state of an otherwise perceptive Christian out of harmony and fellowship. He does not desire to walk apart from fellowship, therefore is anxious to pray and be restored to a right relationship with Jesus Christ.
3. Spirituality is an *absolute* state whereby the Holy Spirit controls the soul of the believer.
4. The Grace Abounding Life (GAL—the high road of God's magnificent grace) is a *relative* state whereby the Word of God has a maximum influence on the life of the Christian.
5. Carnality is an *absolute* state wherein a person is out of harmony and fellowship with Jesus Christ.
6. Apostasy is a *relative* state of spiritual failure of the believer due to the presence of evil in his/her life (evil is the philosophy, policy, design and thought pattern of Satan specifically aimed at the soul of man).
7. The Carnal Christian is perceptive to God's message or can be, but the Apostate is rejecting and perpetually rebelling to the proclamation of God's truth. (Some people say they love the Bible but really prefer "worship" services made up of entertainment, emotional emphasis, testimonies, and music rather than the exegetical study of Scripture.)
8. The Carnal Christian can be restored immediately by means of prayer—1 John 1:9. The Apostate, however, normally has such a saturation and pollution of Evil in the Soul that it takes many years to remove the deep scars. The soul grip of evil and Satanic thought patterns is unbelievable. The only way is perception and a crash diet of Bible study.
9. An Apostate is a person who is constantly influenced by evil—Satan's thinking.
 - a) Our Lord blesses a person who is influenced by the Bible.
 - b) Our Lord disciplines the person influenced by evil.
10. A person who is consistently ruled by emotions is generally apostate (2 Cor 6:11, 12; Rom 16:17, 18).
 - a) When the emotions of the soul take over in a person's life then that person

responds to the weaknesses of the sinful nature rather than the strength of God's message. Emotions then become the ruler and the Bible is reduced to an insignificant position and neutralized.

- b) No matter how good a thing is within itself, if it begins to counter-act or render ineffective God's message then it becomes TERRIBLE–HORRIBLE–EVIL.
- c) There is nothing wrong with emotions. No one would want to be without emotions provided that they do not rule and reign over the life.
- d) Emotions are God's means of appreciation in the soul.

11. An apostate Christian is a person walking in life with an emptiness of Spiritual Truth in his mind—thus the mind is defiled. A person who is negative to God's Word is always positive to evil (Eph 4:17, 18)

- a) He is not demon possessed (1Cor 6:19, 20).
- b) He is demon influenced and *evil* possessed.