

# THE FALLING AWAY

## 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12

Has the final rejection of the faith foretold in the Bible already begun?

### LET'S GET STARTED

As our society spirals downward into moral confusion and chaos, some believers wonder if the "falling away" foretold in the New Testament is now underway. In this message we will seek an answer to that question.

### LET'S HEAR THE WORD

a·pos·ta·sy

/ə'pəstəsē/

A determined, willful defection from the faith or \_\_\_\_\_ of the faith.

#### Facts about apostasy revealed in the New Testament

There have always been professing believers who \_\_\_\_\_ from the faith (Matthew 13:20-22).

The "falling away" of the end times will take place within the \_\_\_\_\_, not in society (Matthew 24:10-12; 1 Timothy 4:1).

This falling away will expose the fact that relatively \_\_\_\_\_ people on Earth are authentic believers (Matthew 7:13-14; Luke 18:8).

### Quotable

*Satan is an imitator, and his imitation gospel and church will spread in the last days.*

—Warren Wiersbe

*Every age has its defectors, but the falling away at the end times will be complete and worldwide. The whole planet will be in rebellion against God and His Christ. Every coup requires a leader, and into this global apostasy will step the Antichrist.*

—Michael Houdmann

### If you would like to know more

*101 Answers to the Most Asked Questions About the End Times*, by Mark Hitchcock (Multnomah, 2001)

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## The apostasy that is to come (2 Thessalonians 2:1-12)

- When you don't know the Scriptures, you can't understand the \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 1-2).  
  
"The day of the Lord" is the culmination of God's end-times calendar, in which His \_\_\_\_\_ of unbelievers and His \_\_\_\_\_ of true believers is brought to their ultimate fulfillment (Isaiah 2:17).
- The end times will be marked by a massive, worldwide \_\_\_\_\_ from the \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 3-5).
- The \_\_\_\_\_ holds back Satan's plans for the world, but He will be withdrawn in the end times (vv. 6-10).
- Current events can be explained with one word: \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 11-12).

## LET'S LIVE IT

We can put today's truth into practice by putting faith in Christ to save us, and by learning and obeying the Scriptures.

If you would like to speak to any of our Pastors about a spiritual need in your life, here is their contact information:

Church phone: 843.569.6745

Pastor David: Office extension 11, email: dcoleman@crowfieldbaptist.org

Pastor Gary: Office extension 14, email: gfabian@crowfieldbaptist.org

Pastor Andy: Office extension: 18, email: aanderson@crowfieldbaptist.org

You may also discover what the Bible says about how to become a Christian by visiting the following page on our website: <http://www.crowfieldbaptist.org/salvation/>