

SOME CAUSES OF APOSTASY

Throughout the New Testament, we read of individuals apostatizing from the faith, i.e., Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 5:1-10), Hymenaeus and Alexander (1 Timothy 1:19-20; 2 Timothy 4:14), Hymenaeus and Philetus (2 Timothy 2:17-18) and Demas (2 Timothy 4:10). These examples of apostasy should cause us to ask the following question: What precipitates apostasy?

1) Some leave the faith because of persecution. In one of His parables, Jesus spoke of the superficial person who endures for a while, but, “when tribulation and persucution arise because of the word, straightway he stumbles” (Matthew 13:21). The Christian is charged to be faithful, even if it means the forfeiture of his life (Revelation 2:10).

2) Others fall away because, not understanding the permissive will of God, i.e., his allowance of hardships as a consequence of humanity’s initial rebellion. They blame the Creator for those dire circumstances that sometimes invade their lives. As a result, they walk away from Providence. One of the great lessons of the book of Job is that God does not shield His people — even the best — from life’s tragedies. We must learn to trust our Maker — no matter what happens (Job 13:15).

3) Many Christian souls have become victims of false teaching. There are those who seem to think that “false teachers” do not exist. But the Savior warned of this danger (Matthew 7:15), and subsequent history reveals the devastation of believing error (cf. 1 Timothy 4:1-3; 2 Timothy 4:1-4). In our own day, we have observed many yielding to the influences of denominationalism. From Nashville to Abilene to Malibu, defection from the ancient faith is apparent. The expression, “the old paths,” (Jeremiah 6:16; cf. Jeremiah 18:15) has become a term subject to ridicule by a new clan of self-designated sophisticates whose ambition seems to center in fashioning a church after their personal desires.

4) Then there are those who simply ease away from fidelity, in an ever-so-gradual fashion. The writer of the book of Hebrews spoke of the distinct possibility of neglecting one’s salvation, hence, drifting away from the saved state (Hebrews 2:1-3). In our present environment of “busy” activities, it is not difficult to allow life’s distractions to “choke” out our passion for serving Christ (cf. Matthew 13:22), so that we subordinate the interests of the Lord’s kingdom to a multitude of trivial things (contra Matthew 6:33). For not a few, worldliness has an allurement that has drawn them to destruction, much like the silly fly in Mary Howitt’s famous poem, The Spider And The Fly, who, with flattery, was charmed into the spider’s deadly web (cf. 2 Timothy 4:10). To employ a metaphor more in line with biblical imagery, some members of the church are languishing in a pigpen (cf. Luke 15:15), and they no longer can even smell the stench!

Conclusion

The solution to apostasy in the church is found in [1 John 4:1-6. Every Christian needs to return to the measurement “standard” of God’s Word in order to correctly measure and test each “spirit’s” teaching. Only in this way will we keep the church “pure,” “a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish” (Ephesians 5:27; cf. Revelation 19:7-8).

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Many receive advice, only the wise profit from it.

...“ *Pride only breeds quarrels, but wisdom is found in those who take advice.*” Prov. 13:10

**June: BIRTHDAYS:** 23-Jeanie Brasher, 25-Sara Beth Mayfield, 26-Bladen De Priest, 26-Ginger Foster

## JULY:

**BIRTHDAYS:** 7-Linda Ballentine; 7-Angie Holmes; 10-Helen Pinson; 15-Orvaline Mann  
23-Emily Kelley; 25-Rhonda Aden; 28-Wendy Rogers

**ANNIVERSARIES:** 7-Shane & Brooke De Priest; 15-Derek & Tonya Box; 21- Mickey & Judy Keen;  
24- Jerry & April Williams; 28-Jimmy & Tina Kelly

## WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?

**We must hear the word of God. Romans 10:17**

**We must believe the word of God. Hebrews 11:6; John 3:16; Mark 16:15-16**

**We must repent of our sins. Luke 13:3; Acts 2:38**

**We must confess Christ before men. Matthew 10:32-33; Romans 10:9-10**

**We must be immersed for the remission of our sins. Acts 2:38; 22:16; I Peter 3:21**

**We must live faithfully until death. Revelation 2:10; Romans 12:1-2**

## •THOSE TO SERVE – JULY LIST IN FOYER

(Please check for your assignment and PLEASE contact one of the Deacons if you know you are going to be absent on that date).

## DATES TO REMEMBER:

•**SYS HERE TOMORROW NIGHT 7 p.m. Young people, INVITE YOUR FRIENDS!**

• July 8<sup>th</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Fellowship Lunch; All Invited

•**SAVE THE DATE! JULY 29<sup>TH</sup> Appreciation Party for Tim after Sunday Night Services – Cookout (tentatively) at David and Pam's; and Add-A-Dish sides so plan to bring your best summer party food or dessert! Celebration and Appreciation for 30 YEARS OF PREACHING!**

## SHUT-INS /NURSING HOME:

Martha Nell Reed, Lakeside Retirement Community, 390 Dr. Smith Lane, McKenzie 38201

Elvy Sauls Jr., Life Care of Bruceton, 105 Rowland Ave., Bruceton 38317

## PRAYER LIST: Sympathy to Mandy Bryant and family in the passing of her grandmother, Joy Holt. Her funeral service was Friday.

Shirley Butler was hospitalized this past week, discharged Wed; Jimmy McClain had dental surgery last week in the hospital in Jackson; Dwayne Bateman, hospital in Jackson; Jim, Paige and new baby Everly Halford; Wanda Smith had tests at Vanderbilt on Wed., Kaffie Green, Sybil Hamilton, Charlie Wachsmuth, Jimmy McClain, Tom Aden, Doris Haskell, Mary Bryant, Tim Rogers, Charlotte Russell, Harold Hutcherson, Charles Foster, Penny Warren, Vicki Murphy (Lexington), Mike Lane, Ruth Bennett, Janice Sauls Wade

**CANCER:** Barry Barber passed away last Sunday. Jane Woodson, Ray Box, Denise Clemmer, Kenneth Foster, Joe Gordon, Linda Cherry; Jackie Smith, Keith Inman, Lynn Harrison, Deborah Browning; Hattie Brinkley Berry, Christine Johnson, Jimmy Greene, Lalanie Murphy

**Trezevant church of Christ, 114 Church St., Trezevant, TN 38258, 731-669-3448, Tim Rogers, Minister**

## Services:

Sunday Morning

Bible Study: 9:00 a.m.

Worship: 10:00 a.m.

Evening: 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday

Bible Study: 6:30 p.m.

## Elders:

Dale Aden Cell: 731-415-1161

David Bryant Cell: 731-418-1311 Home: 731-669-9648 [waynebryant25@gmail.com](mailto:waynebryant25@gmail.com)

Steve Foster Cell: 731-225-4395

## Deacons:

David Brasher Cell: 731-415-0636

Greg McClain Cell: 731-694-0766

Mark Wright Cell: 731-571-5606

Youth Coordinator: Nick Bryant 694-2983

MISSIONS: Partners in Africa; West TN Childrens Home

### JUNE 18

| DATES                         | WEEK OF 06/03                                               | WEEK OF 06/10                                               | WEEK OF 06/17                                               | WEEK OF 24                                                  |  |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| PREPARE LORD'S SUPPER         | DALE BALLENTINE                                             | DALE BALLENTINE                                             | DALE BALLENTINE                                             | DALE BALLENTINE                                             |  |
| GREET                         | GREG AND LORI                                               | GREG AND LORI                                               | GREG AND LORI                                               | GREG AND LORI                                               |  |
| POWERPOINT                    | JOSHUA BRASHER                                              | JOSHUA BRASHER                                              | JOSHUA BRASHER                                              | JOSHUA BRASHER                                              |  |
| ANNOUNCEMENTS                 | DALE ADEN                                                   | DALE ADEN                                                   | DALE ADEN                                                   | DALE ADEN                                                   |  |
| OPENING PRAYER SUNDAY A.M.    | SHERRILL SMITH                                              | TIM ROGERS                                                  | DALE BALLENTINE                                             | KEITH PEEVYHOUSE                                            |  |
| LEAD SINGING SUNDAY A.M.      | DAVID BRYANT                                                | DAVID BRYANT                                                | DAVID BRYANT                                                | DAVID BRYANT                                                |  |
| PRESIDE LORD'S SUPPER         | MARK WRIGHT                                                 | MARK WRIGHT                                                 | MARK WRIGHT                                                 | MARK WRIGHT                                                 |  |
| PRESIDE LORD'S SUPPER         | DAVID BRASHER                                               | DAVID BRASHER                                               | DAVID BRASHER                                               | DAVID BRASHER                                               |  |
| SERVE LORD'S SUPPER           | MONTE MORRIS<br>DANIEL ROGERS<br>JACOB KEEN GREG<br>MCCLAIN | MONTE MORRIS<br>DANIEL ROGERS<br>JACOB KEEN<br>GREG MCCLAIN | MONTE MORRIS<br>DANIEL ROGERS<br>JACOB KEEN GREG<br>MCCLAIN | MONTE MORRIS<br>DANIEL ROGERS<br>JACOB KEEN GREG<br>MCCLAIN |  |
| SCRIPTURE READING SUNDAY A.M. | DYLAN HOLT                                                  | JACK LAWRENCE                                               | DANIEL ROGERS                                               | JACOB PEEVYHOUSE                                            |  |
| CLOSING PRAYER SUNDAY A.M.    | MONTE MORRIS                                                | JACOB KEEN                                                  | STEVE FOSTER                                                | JACOB PEEVYHOUSE                                            |  |
| OPENING PRAYER SUNDAY P.M.    | DALE ADEN                                                   | MARK WRIGHT                                                 | DALE BALLENTINE                                             | KEITH PEEVYHOUSE                                            |  |
| LEAD SINGING SUNDAY P.M.      | NICK BRYANT                                                 | NICK BRYANT                                                 | NICK BRYANT                                                 | NICK BRYANT                                                 |  |
| SCRIPTURE READING SUNDAY P.M. | DANIEL ROGERS                                               | MONTE MORRIS                                                | JACK LAWRENCE                                               | NOAH BRASHER                                                |  |
| CLOSING PRAYER SUNDAY P.M.    | NOAH BRASHER                                                | NICK BRYANT                                                 | JACOB KEEN                                                  | DYLAN HOLT                                                  |  |
| OPENING PRAYER WEDNESDAY      | JUNE 06 MARK WRIGHT                                         | JUNE 13 GREG MCCLAIN                                        | JUNE 20 CHARLES WACHSMUTH                                   | JUN 27 DALE ADEN                                            |  |
| LEAD SINGING WEDNESDAY        | JACOB PEEVYHOUSE                                            | JACOB PEEVYHOUSE                                            | JACOB PEEVYHOUSE                                            | JACOB PEEVYHOUSE                                            |  |
| DEVOTIONAL WEDNESDAY          | DANIEL ROGERS                                               | DALE ADEN                                                   | DAVID BRYANT                                                | NICK BRYANT                                                 |  |
| CLOSING PRAYER WEDNESDAY      | JACOB KEEN                                                  | JOSHUA BRASHER                                              | NOAH BRASHER                                                | DYLAN HOLT                                                  |  |