

## Welcome to Calvary Chapel of Hilo

Pastor Ron Brav - 933.1037 – ronbrav@gmail.com – www.calvarychapelhilo.org  
885 Kilauea Avenue, Hilo, Hawaii 96720

**Sunday Morning - 9:00 A.M. "Avoiding the End Times Apostasy" 2 Thess 2:1-5**

**Sunday Morning Prayer 8:15-8:45**

**Next Week –9 A.M. "God's Time Table" 2 Thess 2:6-176**

**9:30 AM - Wednesday AM Bible Study – 1 KINGS 14**

### INCREASING APOSTASY

The term "last days" covers the entire period from the first to the second advents of Christ (Heb. 1:2). Defection and apostasy, among other things, will characterize that entire period (2 Tim. 3:1). So the presence of apostasy is not in itself indicative of the end of the Church Age, but the increase of it is. Apostasy is both present and future, when the climactic apostasy will occur that leads to the religious reign of the man of sin during the Tribulation period (2 Thess. 2:3). We may expect apostasy to become increasingly widespread as we draw nearer to the Tribulation days.

1. *The doctrinal characteristics of apostasy.* These include at least three, including (a) a denial of the doctrine of the Trinity (1 John 2:22–23); a denial of the doctrine of the Incarnation of Christ (1 John 2:22; 4:3; 2 John 7). In John's day this took the form of denying the true and real humanity of Christ, though it also takes the form of denying the true deity of Christ. Rejecting either the Trinity or the Incarnation denies the existence of the God-man, which is essential to our salvation. If Jesus Christ were not a man, He could not have died; but if He were not also God, that death could not atone for sins. The third point is a denial of the doctrine of the return of Christ (2 Pet. 3:4).

2. *The lifestyle characteristics of apostasy.* Defection in doctrine always brings a decline in morals. Paul listed eighteen characteristics of such declension in 2 Timothy 3:1–5. They are love of self, love of money, a spirit of pride, blasphemy, disobedience to parents, lack of thankfulness, lack of holiness, lack of natural affection, unceasing enmity so that men cannot be persuaded to enter into treaties with each other, slander, lack of self-control, savagery, opposition to goodness, traitors, headiness (rashness or recklessness), high-mindedness, love of pleasure, a pretense of worship without godliness of life.

Charles Ryrie, *Basic Theology*

### SEVEN STAGES OF APOSTASY:

1. Refusal to hear God (Hebrews 3:7)
2. Hardness of heart through refusal to hear and obey God (Hebrews 3:8,13,15)
3. Unbelief a consequence of hardening the heart against God (Hebrews 3:12)
4. Departure from the living God (Hebrews 3:12)
5. Open rebellion against God to provoke and tempt Him (Hebrews 3:8-9,16)
6. Habitual sinning, careless living, and flagrant violation of God's laws (Hebrews 3:10,17)
7. Apostasy—all faith in God and His redemptive work thrown overboard—beyond all hope of repentance because of no more faith (Hebrews 3:11,18-19)

### DAY OF CHRIST.

This is the period connected with reward and blessing of saints at the coming of Christ for His own. The expression occurs in 1 Cor. 1:8; 1 Cor. 5:5; 2 Cor. 1:14; Phil. 1:6, 10; Phil. 2:16. In 2 Thes. 2:2 the KJV has the day of Christ incorrectly for the Day of the Lord. The day of Christ is not the Day of the Lord. The latter is connected with earth judgments (Rev. 4:1-19:16), which will come after the out-taking of the church, the Body of Christ, and its glorification and judgment for works at the judgment seat of Christ. The Day of the Lord (Isaiah 2:12; Rev. 19:11-21) cannot occur until after the church is completed (2 Thes. 2:2-12).

### DAY OF THE LORD.

This is the protracted period commencing with the second advent of Christ in glory and ending with the cleansing of the heavens and the earth by fire preparatory to the new heavens and the new earth of the eternal state (Isaiah 65:17-19; Isaiah 66:22; 2 Thes. 2:2; 2 Peter 3:13; Rev. 21:1). The Day of the Lord as a visible manifestation of Christ upon the earth is to be distinguished from the day of Christ. The latter is connected with the glorification of the saints and their reward in heaven prior to their return with Christ to inaugurate the Day of the Lord. The Day of the Lord thus comprehends specifically the closing phase of the Tribulation and extends through the millennial kingdom. Apocalyptic judgments (Rev. 4:1-19:6) precede and introduce the Day of the Lord.