

2 TIMOTHY

Lesson 3:
Chapter Three
“The Approaching Day of Apostasy”

The Second Epistle to Timothy

Chapters 1 and 2

This was the subject of lessons 1 and 2.

Persevere in Present Testings

Thanksgiving for
Timothy's Faith

Reminder of Timothy's
Responsibility

Characteristics of a
Faithful Minister

1:1-5

1:6-18

2:1-26

The Second Epistle to Timothy

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Chapters 3 and 4 **This is where we are now.**

Endure in Future Testings



The Approaching Day
of Apostasy

3:1-17

Apostasy: “a total desertion, or departure from one's faith or religion.” (Webster's Dictionary)

Look for the answers to these questions:

1. In Chapter 3:2-5, Paul describes many signs of a society that has turned away from God. Name two that you have seen that are a big problem in your age group.
2. According to 2 Timothy 3:5, what should you do when you see such things?
3. 2 Timothy 3:7 describes them as ever _____ and never _____.
4. Phygellus and Hermogenes _____ the truth.
5. Hymenaeus and Philetus _____ the truth.
6. Jannes and Jambres _____ the truth.
7. According to 2 Timothy 3:12-13, "All that will live godly in Christ Jesus _____."
8. According to 2 Timothy 3:13, "Evil men and seducers shall _____."
9. According to 2 Timothy 3:16, how did we get the written Word of God?
10. According to 2 Timothy 3:16, what are the three ways we receive instruction in righteousness?

The Approaching Day of Apostasy

2 Timothy 3:1

- ¹ This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

As Paul foretold to Timothy – and we are now seeing firsthand – the “last days” have been increasingly turbulent.



The Approaching Day of Apostasy

2 Timothy 3:1

- 1 This know also, that in the last days **perilous** times shall come.

STRONG'S CONCORDANCE

Perilous = χαλεπός chalepos

- 1) hard to bear, troublesome, **dangerous**



2 Timothy 3:1

- 1 This know also, that in the last days
perilous times shall come.

GENEVA BIBLE NOTES

“There will be great abundance of most wicked men even in the very bosom of the Church, who will nonetheless make a show and countenance of great holiness, and charity.”



The Approaching Day of Apostasy

2 Timothy 3:2-5

- ² For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,
- ³ Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,
- ⁴ Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;
- ⁵ Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof:
from such turn away.

The evils Paul spoke of prophetically are easily seen in today's society.





lovers of their own selves,



covetous,
(loving money STRONG'S CONCORDANCE)



boasters, proud



disobedient to parents,



Unthankful,



unholy,
(irreligious New JERUSALEM BIBLE)



Without natural affection,
(heartless NJB)



trucebreakers,



false accusers,



Incontinent,

“Not restraining the passions or appetites”

WEBSTER'S

**fierce,
(savage)**





despisers of those that are good,



Traitors,
(treacherous NJB)



heady, highminded,
(reckless and demented by pride NJB)



**lovers of pleasures
more than lovers of God;**

Having a form of godliness,
but denying the power thereof:



from such turn away.

2 Timothy 3:6

For of this sort are
they which creep
into houses, and lead
captive silly women
laden with sins,
led away with divers
lusts,



2 Timothy 3:7
Ever learning, and
never able to come to
the knowledge of the
truth.



2 Timothy 3:7

Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.



Why? Because “the fear of the LORD is the **beginning** of knowledge.” (Prov. 1:7)



The Approaching Day of Apostasy

2 Timothy 3:8-9

- ⁸ Now as Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses,
so do these also resist the truth:
men of corrupt minds,
reprobate concerning the faith.
- ⁹ But they shall proceed no further:
for their folly shall be manifest unto all
men, as theirs also was.



The Approaching Day of Apostasy

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Three pairs of men are mentioned in this epistle:

1. Phygellus and Hermogenes *turned away* from the truth (1:15).
2. Hymenaeus and Philetus *erred* concerning the truth (2:17,18).
3. Jannes and Jambres *resisted* the truth.





Jannes and Jambres are not identified in the Bible, but they are generally understood to be the magicians in Pharaoh's court.

The Approaching Day of Apostasy

2 Timothy 3:10-11

- ¹⁰ But thou hast fully known my doctrine,
manner of life, purpose, faith,
longsuffering, charity, patience,
- ¹¹ Persecutions, afflictions,
which came unto me
at Antioch,
at Iconium,
at Lystra;
what persecutions I endured:
but out of *them* all the Lord delivered me.

Paul's own character stands in contrast to what we have read so far in this chapter.



The Approaching Day of Apostasy

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Acts 13:50-51

- ⁵⁰ But the Jews stirred up the
devout and honourable women,
and the chief men of the city,
and raised persecution against
Paul and Barnabas,
and expelled them out of their
coasts.
⁵¹ But they shook off the dust of
their feet against them,
and came unto Iconium.



The Approaching Day of Apostasy

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Acts 14:1-2

- ¹ And it came to pass in Iconium,
that they went both together
into the synagogue of the Jews,
and so spake, that a great
multitude both of the Jews and
also of the Greeks believed.
- ² But the unbelieving Jews stirred
up the Gentiles, and made their
minds evil affected against the
brethren.



The Approaching Day of Apostasy

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Acts 14:19-20

- ¹⁹ And there came thither *certain*
Jews from Antioch and Iconium,
who persuaded the people,
and, having stoned Paul, drew
him out of the city, supposing
he had been dead.
²⁰ Howbeit, as the disciples stood
round about him, he rose up,
and came into the city:
and the next day he departed
with Barnabas to Derbe.



The Approaching Day of Apostasy

2 Timothy 3:12

¹² Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.

Jesus said,
“If they have persecuted me,
they will also persecute you”
(John 15:20).



The Approaching Day of Apostasy

2 Timothy 3:13

¹³ But evil men and seducers shall wax [grow] worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.

Sometimes it will feel like evil is winning.



The Approaching Day of Apostasy

2 Timothy 3:14-15

- ¹⁴ But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned *them*;
- ¹⁵ And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

Christians who are not rooted and grounded in the truth will be pulled from the faith. This is why we must be educated in the holy Scriptures.



The Approaching Day of Apostasy

2 Timothy 3:16-17

- ¹⁶ All scripture
is given by inspiration of God,
and is profitable
for doctrine,
for reproof,
for correction,
for instruction in righteousness:
- ¹⁷ That the man of God may be perfect,
thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

If you do not know *true doctrine*,
how will you turn away from *false
doctrine*?



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How did we get the Scripture?
It was “given by inspiration of God.”

θεόπνευστος (theopneustos)

“God-breathed”



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What is the Bible useful for?
It is “instruction in righteousness.”



“INSTRUCTION IN RIGHTEOUSNESS”

DOCTRINE

Instruction in the true faith.

Psalms 25:4: Shew me thy ways,
O LORD; teach me thy paths.

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REPROOF

Chastisement when we turn
away from the true faith.

Hebrews 12:7: If ye endure
chastening, God dealeth with you
as with sons; for what son is he
whom the father chasteneth not?

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CORRECTION

Instruction to bring us back
to the true faith.

Ezekiel 18:30: Repent, and turn
yourselves from your idols; and
turn away your faces from all
your abominations.

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An education in the Scriptures
“perfects” the servant of God.

perfect: ἄρτιος artios

He is prepared, equipped, and
ready for use by God.



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End of Chapter Three



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2:1-26

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Endurance in Future Testings

The Approaching Day
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3:1-17

UP NEXT

Charge to Preach
the Word

4:1-5

Questions to test your understanding of this lesson:

1. In Chapter 3:2-5, Paul describes many signs of a society that has turned away from God. Name two that you have seen that are a big problem in your age group.
2. According to 2 Timothy 3:5, what should you do when you see such things?
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Each question is worth 10 points. Do NOT share your answers with other students.



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