

# In the Latter Times

1 Tim 4.1-5

## 1 Tim. 4:1

**Speaketh:** lay forth in a systematic manner.  
Point out with words.

**Expressly:** stated in no uncertain terms,  
Articulated explicitly and distinctly  
2 Pet. 1:21 2 Tim. 3:16-17

Holy Spirit given explicit and distinct instructions concerning what to expect during latter times

2 Tim. 3:1-2 2 Pet. 2:1; 3:3 1 John 2:18; 4:1

Not new in scriptures.

**Latter times:** last dispensation.

The Church age.

**Depart:** stand off; withdraw; desert; apostacize

**From the faith:** body of doctrinal truth we accept in order to be Christian.

**Clarke:** *from Christianity; renouncing the whole system in effect, by bringing in doctrines which render its essential truths null and void, or denying and renouncing such doctrines as are essential to Christianity as a system of salvation.*

Jude 1:3 Delivered once for all for the saints.

Can true Christian be an apostate? No.

*The departure does not issue in a loss of personal salvation ; rather it results in the façade of a faulty profession. An apostate then is an unsaved person who eventually reveals his true spiritual identity by his voluntary denial or redemptive truth...*

1 John 2:19

Different from heretics. Heretics Christians who develop a hobby horse doctrine or opinion.

Become cultic

**giving heed:** give assent to; take to one's possession

**Seducing:** wandering, roving, misleading, leading into error, seduce:

**Spirits:** unseen beings...without bodies. Demons. Fallen angels.

Hierarchy: Eph 6

2 Cor 4:4 Blind eyes

Rev 13:11,14 Ability to do miracles.

2 Cor 11:14 Angels of light

1 John 4:1-3

**and doctrines of devils;**

Satan has doctrine---apostates!

Demonic wisdom, manifested in apostates' teaching, includes self-glorification, self-actualization, lying, humanism, sensuality.

Organized and attractive.

2 Cor. 11:13-15

**1 Tim. 4:2**

***Speaking lies in hypocrisy:*** Preach one thing and practice another.

Matt. 7:15-20 2 Pet. 2:10, 12, 18-19

*They masquerade as holy, righteous men living within a caring community. Show an external form of religious goodness but when the robe is taken off and the mask is discarded often you find the perverts, drunkards, and abusers and offenders of mankind. Author unknown*

**Conscience:** *to know with.*

Moral faculty of perception, which operates within the human spirit to aid man in decision-making.

**Conscience:** *The awareness of a moral or ethical aspect to one's conduct together with the urge to prefer right over wrong. A source of moral or ethical judgment or pronouncement*

*Not harboring any bitterness toward another (grudge). Am.Hist.Dict*

**Gromaki:** *Conscience causes the inner self to sit in moral judgment upon its attitudes and actions.*

**Wiersbe:** *Conscience is the inner judge that accuses us when we have done wrong and approves when we have done right.*

Conscience always operates within a context.

If context is peer pressure or world then conscience becomes perverted and distorted, and can't be trusted.

A person can condition his conscience.

***Seared with a hot iron....insensitive*** to things of God.

Concerned about conscience?

1. Clear
2. Rebuild
3. Obey

**Believers Study Bible:** *..... then the conscience becomes an invaluable assistant to the man who seeks a spiritual walk.*

**Good conscience/clear conscience:** Able to look every person in face and know not one thing I have done to be an offense that I have not made right.

**Heibert:** *a conscience that has been freed from the guilt of sin by the application of Christ's blood and is conscious of cherishing no impure, wicked motive.*

**Seared:** branded, cauterized, and rendered unsensitive.

**With a hot iron:** expression probably taken from legal punishment of branding criminals on forehead.

**Kent:** *Made insensitive to right and wrong because of some radical act of perverting the truth.*

Isa. 5:20

Often--man/woman who stands against the faith-- in past some incident of moral failure.

Outward evidence of seared conscience:

Not able to discern spiritual things

Apathetic

Little power

No desire for prayer

Not able to focus during preaching

Craving for sensual things

Very little capacity for joy, peace

Strong animosity toward the church (blame! Criticize! I'm a victim!)

Tangential thinking (witch hunt mentality)

Similar to a heretic Titus 3:10-11

Eph. 4:19

**1 Tim. 4:3 *Forbidding to marry, Celibacy***

Gnosticism--dualism: spirit good/matter evil.

All appetites that relate to body--bad and evil

Philosophy: If really want to be spiritual then stay unmarried.

Gen. 2:18 Prov. 18:22

***and commanding to abstain from meats, Asceticism.***

One reach higher spiritual state by rigorous self-discipline and self-denial.

***Commanding to abstain:***

Before flood: man a vegetarian. Gen 1:29

After flood: Gen. 9:3

Mosaic law: only certain kinds of meat...eat. Lev 11

Acts 18:9-16 Man free to enjoy all types of foods provided by God.

Being a vegetarian does not make you more spiritual than others.

Any truth taken out of balance leads to heresy.

**Received:** eaten

**With thanksgiving:** for meals...bowing head

***of them which believe and know the truth.*** Those who believe and acknowledge truth.

## 1 Tim. 4:4

Clarke: *Every creature which God has made for man's nourishment is good for that purpose, and to be thankfully received whenever necessary for the support of human life; and nothing of that sort is at any time to be refused, .... rejected or despised.*

Gen. 1:31 1 Cor. 6:13

## 1 Tim. 4:5

**Sanctified:** set apart to God...

**Word of God:** passages teaching about food

**Prayer:** The food in itself has no moral quality but acquires a holy quality by its consecration.

## So What?

### Understand

Apostates

New age movement

Hypocrisy

Seared consciences

Gnosticism

Celibacy/ascetism

### Emphasize

Word of God

Prayer.