

GUARDING AGAINST APOSTASY

Pastor Bill Young
bill@trc.life

Four keys to guarding against apostasy...

I. WE MUST RECOGNIZE REALITY OF _____.

1 Timothy 4:1 The Spirit clearly says that in **later times** some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons.

A. Satan is _____.

2 Corinthians 2:11 In order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.

B. Satan's _____: Draw Christians away from Jesus.

1 Peter 5:8 Be alert and of sober mind. Your **enemy the devil** prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

Ephesians 6:12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

Q#1: Do you believe you have a spiritual _____? Are you taking steps to guard yourself & others?

II. WE MUST RECOGNIZE FALSE _____.

1 Timothy 4:2 Such teachings come through hypocritical liars, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron.

A. False teachers are described as demonic _____.

2 Corinthians 11:14-15 And no wonder, for **Satan himself** masquerades as an angel of light. It is not surprising, then, if his servants also masquerade as servants of righteousness. Their end will be what their actions deserve.

B. False teachers have a _____ conscience.

C. Three keys to keeping a _____ conscience:

1. We must _____ our consciences of right and wrong via **Scripture**.
2. We _____ to our conscience by **obeying** God.
3. We must _____ our conscience by **not feeding** it evil.

Q#2: Can you recognize false teachers? Do you have a _____ conscience?

III. WE MUST RECOGNIZE FALSE _____.

1 Timothy 4:3 They forbid people to marry and order them to abstain from certain foods, which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and who know the truth.

A. False teaching often focuses on _____ doctrinal areas.

B. False teaching often has _____ of truth.

C. False teaching often leads to _____.

LEGALISM - "Following man-made rules hoping to be justified."

Q#3: Can you recognize false teachings? Are you a _____?

IV. WE MUST RECOGNIZE THE _____.

1 Timothy 4:4-5 for everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, 5 because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer.

A. Marriage and food are _____ through Word & prayer.

B. Truth is found in the _____.

Acts 17:11 Now the **Berean** Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.

Q#4: Can you recognize the _____? Are you a Berean?

V. CONCLUSION: The only true and ultimate protection from apostasy is knowing _____!

A. Jesus is our only our only _____!

John 10:14 "I am the **good shepherd**; I know my sheep and my sheep know me."
John 10:11 "I am the **good shepherd**. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."

Q#5: Do you know his voice? Do you know _____?