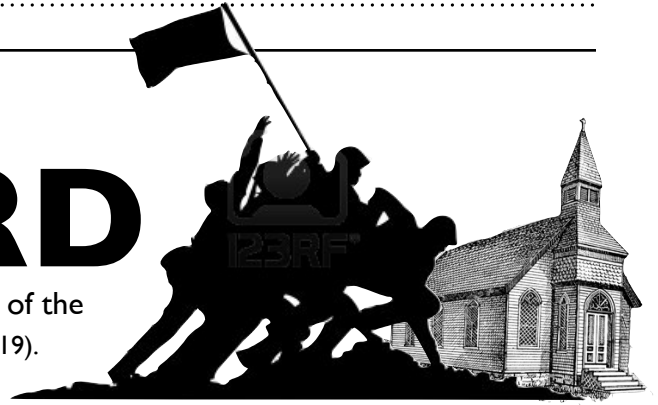




# “Some Shall Depart”

## Lifting Up The STANDARD

“When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him” (Isaiah 59:19).



Challenging And Encouraging God's Remnant To Remain Faithful

Issue 23 - June 30, 2014

“Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils.”

(First Timothy 4:1)

### “Speaketh Expressly”

We read in **First Timothy 4:1** that the Spirit “speaketh expressly.” To speak expressly is to speak clearly, leaving no room for confusion or doubt. It has been clearly prophesied that “in the latter times some shall depart from the faith,” and therefore we should not be taken by surprise that it is happening in these last days.

### Don't Let The Devil Put You On A Guilt Trip

A study of First and Second Timothy sadly reveals that far more departed from the faith than remained true to the faith, and we are told “expressly” that it will also be that way “in the latter times.”

### “Shall He Find Faith?”

In **Luke 18:8** we read Jesus said,

“When the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?”

The word “faith” here is not referring to trusting but to the doctrines as taught in the Word of God. It is very possible, and is actually a fact, that we can be actively involved in the ministry while departing from the faith. Israel of old was very active in their weekly rituals while “departing from” God’s “precepts” and from God’s “judgments” (Daniel 9:5).

**Why People Leave...**continued on page two

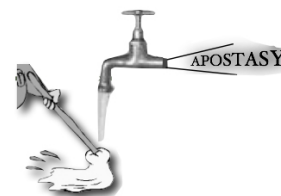
## Pastor's Church Manual



**Departing From The Faith  
And Departing From  
The Ministry Are Two  
Different Things**

Don't Miss This Fifteen Minute  
Audio Message On Our  
“Plain & Simple” Program.

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Would It Be Better To Shut The  
Tap Off First?

Why People Leave...continued from page one

**The Scripture warns us in Hebrews 2:1**, “Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip.” Departing from the faith will inevitably lead to departing from the local church. Below are some reasons why good people leave good churches.

### “Vain Jangling”

**First Timothy 1:6,**

*“Some having swerved have turned aside unto vain jangling.”*

**Why would anyone listen to “vain jangling”?** Jangling is “a discordant sound.” To be discordant is to be out of harmony. Paul was referring to those who were out of harmony with the Word of God. The main reason people will listen to vain janglers is they do not know the Scriptures well enough to refute them. As a result they will be “turned aside.”

### A Poor Choice of Friends

Another reason they listen to the vain janglers is because of their choice of friends.

**Psalm 26:4 says,**

*“I have not sat with vain persons, neither will I go in with dissemblers.”*

A *dissembler* is one who conceals his or her true motive. The dissemblers are not interested in truth they are only interested in winning others over to their way of thinking. It matters not if we are pastors or people in the pews, we become like those we become friends with.

**First Corinthians 15:33 says,**

*“Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.”*

This phrase “good manners” is not talking about saying please and thank you, it refers to the manner in which we do things.

**Proverbs 28:19 says,**

*“He that followeth after vain persons shall have poverty enough.”*

### Listening To “The Gainsayers”

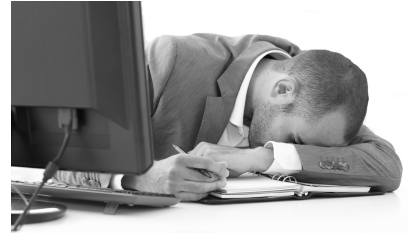
**Titus 1:9 refers to the Christian,**

*“Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort (warn) and to convince (translated “reprove” 6x and “rebuke” 5x) the gainsayers.”*

A gainsayer is one who denies and contradicts the Scriptures. The Bible says, “For there are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers...whose mouths must be stopped, who **subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not**” (Titus 1:10,11).

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### The Discouraged Pastor



### “I Will Give You Pastors”

*“I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding.”*

(Jeremiah 3:15)

**A recent poll indicated...**

**Eighty percent** of pastors and eighty-four percent of their spouses are discouraged.

**Fifty percent** of pastors are so discouraged that they would leave the ministry if they could, but have no other way of making a living.

**Eighty percent** of seminary and Bible school graduates who enter the ministry will leave the ministry within the first five years.

**Ninety percent** said the ministry was completely different than what they thought it would be.

**Eighty percent** of pastors constantly fight depression.

**Eighty percent** of pastor' wives feel left out and unappreciated by the church members.

There was a time when the pastor was respected because of the fact that he was sent from God; however, things have changed. Today pastors are mistrusted, lied about, and have become one of the most criticized, profession on earth.

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The only way to stop the gainsayer is by *“holding fast the faithful word,”* so that, *“he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.”* The phrase *“holding fast”* has been translated *“hold to”* twice. The only way to shut the mouths of the gainsayers is by holding to *“sound doctrine.”* It is critical that we teach the faithful Christians to understand the Scriptures so they can scripturally *“exhort (warn) and “convince the gainsayers.”*

## Putting Away The Faith

### **First Timothy 1:19,**

*“Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck.”*

**Here we have another example of choices and consequences.** We can *“hold the faith”* or we can *“put away”* the faith. The phrase *“put away”* has been translated *“cast away”* twice in Romans and *“thrust away”* in Acts 7:27.

**“Holding faith” results in “a good conscience.”** According to Strong’s Concordance a good conscience is, *“the soul distinguishing between what is morally good and bad, prompting to do the former and shun the latter.”*

**Thrusting away the Word results in “shipwreck.”** The Bible says, *“some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck.”*

## Departing From The Faith

### **First Timothy 4:1,**

*“Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils.”*

**Departing from the faith is not the same as putting away faith.** To put away faith is to reject it. To depart from faith one has first to accept it and then depart from it. How does that happen?

This happens when we give heed to what Paul refers to *“as seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils.”* The word *“seducing”* has been translated *“deceiver”* four times. Second John 1:7 tells us that *“many deceivers are entered into the world.”* A deceiver is one who causes someone to believe something that is not true.

**These deceivers will be guilty of “teaching for doctrines the commandments of men”** (Matthew 15:9). As a result of being deceived they *“cast off their first faith”* (First Timothy 5:12). They *“turn aside after Satan”* (First Timothy 5:15). We only have two choices, we go God’s way, or we go Satan’s way.

**Why People Leave**...continued on page four

**Discouraged**...continued from page two

It must break the heart of the Lord to see how many professing believers simply do not consider church to be the important part of their life outside of their homes. The church has become an add-on rather than a priority.

The church has been pushed down on the list and personal desires have become more important. When it comes to loyalty many Christians are more loyal to their favourite sports team than they are to the church for which Christ died.

Most Christians would never consider missing a day from work to visit family; however, the church for which Christ died? No problem, it’s only church.

The Bible says, *“I will give you pastors”* It must break the heart of the Lord to have the ones He died for say *“thanks, but not this week, we have something more important to do.”*

### **The Solution For The Discouraged Pastor**

The greatest tool the devil has is the tool of discouragement. Obviously, according to the statistics about discouraged pastors, the devil is having a great victory with the help of disloyal Christians.

**In our upcoming issues** we will deal with the subject of discouragement and how the pastor and faithful Christians in our local churches can handle this disabling problem.

**Disappointments** will come; however, **discouragement** is a choice.

**Discouraged**...continued on page four

**Why People Leave**...continued from page three

**Second Timothy 4:4 says,**

*“And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.”*

**Hebrews 12:13 warns us to,**

*“Make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way.”*

**Why Good People Leave Good Churches**

First, we must realize that this is not something new. After being deserted by the multitudes Jesus said, *“Will ye also go away?”* (John 6:67). In verse sixty-six we read, *“From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him.”* In Second Timothy 4:6 Paul said, *“all men forsook me: I pray God that it may not be laid to their charge.”*

**We read that Paul ministered throughout “all Asia”** (Acts 19:26). In Acts 19:10 we read, *“All they which dwelt in Asia heard the word of the Lord Jesus, both Jews and Greeks.”* We also sadly read in Second Timothy 1:15 Paul said, *“This thou knowest, that all they which are in Asia be turned away from me.”*

They turned away from Christ and they turned away from Paul. **Why?** Because they preached the truth and the majority never want to hear the truth.

In Isaiah 30:9, we read the people would not *“hear the law of the LORD.”* In verse ten they said to the prophets, *“Prophesy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things, prophesy deceits.”*

**If you want to stop the people from leaving the answer is simple.** Just preach the *“smooth things”* and stay away from the issues of the day. On the other-hand, if you want to be true to God rather than the *“vain janglers”* do not cease to *“declare all the counsel of God.”* This will honour the Lord and help the remnant who want the truth.

**Discouraged**...continued from page three

No one, not even the devil, can make us discouraged unless we allow it.

God’s leaders and their faithful followers must learn how to handle discouraging situations or we will allow the devil to destroy the purpose God has for us.

**We must face the facts.** The last days are here and we must realize the Bible prophesied this situation 2000 years ago. We are in the Laodicean age.

**We must face the future.** If you are determined to *“declare all the counsel of God”* (Acts 20:27), be prepared to face what Paul faced when he said, *“all men forsook me: I pray God that it may not be laid to their charge.”*

As disappointing as it is, let us not get discouraged because a few people missed church. Be encouraged because of who came to church and determine to help them. Let’s focus on *“exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching”* (Hebrews 10:25).



**No Choice But To Choose.** Fight It or It Will Destroy You! David Chose to *“Encourage Himself”* And Fight! (1 Samuel 30:6)