

April 14, 2019

# SAVED

*real or fake?*

WHEN BELIEVERS LEAVE

JOHN 2:23-25, 6:66-71 (NASB)

## I. APOSTATES: A BIBLICAL REALITY

Two goals this morning:

1. To clarify
2. Give some peace

**DEFINITION OF APOSTATE:** Someone who with full knowledge of the Gospel, full knowledge of the message of Scripture, turns against it in a final act of rejection.

**INSIGHT:** Apostates are undetectable, till they show themselves for what they are.

**INSIGHT:** Apostates aren't believers who lose their salvation (2 Timothy 2:19; John 6:70).

**APOSTATE TRUTH:** Judas didn't believe and then disbelieve; he never believed (John 17:12).

**INSIGHT:** Judas wasn't a man who lost his faith. He was a man who never had saving faith in Christ.

**TRUTH ON APOSTATES:** It isn't that they once were saved and turned against the Truth...but rather that they never were saved.

**TRUTH:** Apostasy hides well among the saints until it comes to full term.

## II. THE BIBLE ON SAVING FAITH (John 10:27-28)

**TRUTH:** Genuine faith cannot die because of the sovereign keeping work of God (Jude 1, 24).

**TRUTH:** Believers don't apostatize, fall from faith, because they are kept by a sovereign Savior (John 8:31).

**TRUTH:** The mark of real faith is continuity. A faith that dies and denies was never real (1 John 2:19).

**TRUTH:** Saying a prayer, being baptized/confirmed, joining a church means nothing in and of itself.

A. Profession is meaningless (Matthew 7:22).

B. Function is meaningless (John 12:6).

### **III. EXAMINE YOURSELF.**

**TRUTH:** True salvation stands up to scrutiny (2 Corinthians 13:5).

Two camps in the local church:

1. Secure self-deceived (Matthew 7)
2. Insecure truly saved

**HOW YOU CAN KNOW IF YOU'RE SAVED:**

1. Romans 8:31-39—Nothing will ever separate you from God.
2. Romans 7—Even though you are secure, you are sinful (James 1:2).

### **IV. GET THE GOSPEL RIGHT (Luke 9:23).**

**TRUTH:** Salvation is all about total life commitment to Jesus Christ.