

Contend Earnestly for the Faith

Apostates, Old and New

J u d e 5 - 1 0 *

Hand-wringing seems to be a favorite sport among Christians these days over the state of the global economy, the political scene, and the decay of society. But what imperils the Church of Jesus Christ and our personal well being more than anything else? The prophets, Jesus and the Apostles and now the writer Jude warn us that it is the declension of doctrine through the false teaching of apostates.

Jude first warned his readers of the peril of apostasy by citing three examples from the past of apostates who were destroyed (vv. 5-7), and then by describing the upcoming judgment on present apostates (vv. 8-16).

God's victory over apostates of old (5-7)

- *Unbelieving Israel (5)*
- *Rebellious angels (6)*
- *Immoral Sodom & Gomorrah (7)*

Mile markers on the road to perdition (8-10)

- *Physical immorality ~ Defile the flesh(8a)*
- *Intellectual insubordination ~ Reject authority (8b)*
- *Spiritual irreverence ~ Revile angelic majesties (8c-10)*

* These notes are prayerfully prepared to aid, not replace, your personal study of God's Word.