

**CHARACTERISTICS OF APOSTASY IN THE LAST DAYS**

(2 Timothy 3:2-4)

VERSE	CHARACTERISTIC	COMMENT
2	"lovers of their own selves"	Preoccupation with self-esteem (Cp., Philip2:3-4).
2	"covetous"	Literally 'lovers of silver'. Worldy materialism (Cp., Eph5:3; Col3:5; Heb13:5).
2	"boasters, proud"	The outward and inward manifestations of a will set in independence from God; the primeval sin of Lucifer (cf. Isa14:12-14).
2	"blasphemers"	No fear of defaming the character of God (Cp., Rom3:18). Parents no longer discipline children, children do not respect their parents (Eph6:1-3). It was a sign of judgment in Israel when children exercised authority over adults (Isa3:4).
2	"disobedient to parents"	
2	"unthankful"	Refusal to acknowledge gratitude owed to God as our Creator and Provider (Cp., Rom1:21).
2	"unholy"	No separation from sin; conformed to the world (cf. Rom12:1-2).
3	"without natural affection"	Normal relationships are perverted (e.g., the love of a parent for child, vice-versa).
3	"trucebreakers"	No integrity, no sanctity of personal commitment. Sustains modern legal profession.
3	"false accusers"	This is the Greek word generally translated <i>devil</i> , literally meaning 'slanderer'; a slandering/assault on genuine believers (Cp., Jn16:2; Rev12:10)?
3	"incontinent"	Without temperance/self-control (Cp., Gal5:23).
3	"fierce"	Literally 'untamed' or 'savage'. Brutal. Preoccupation with violence.
3	"despisers of those that are good"	Sin is exalted as "good", Biblical virtue is mocked (e.g., homosexual agenda vs. divine ordinance of marriage). Bible-believing Christians are those labeled as bigoted, chauvinistic, immoral (Cp., Isa5:20).
4	"traitors"	No personal loyalties, disposed toward betrayal.
4	"heady"	Rash, reckless; controlled by emotions rather than mind.
4	"high-minded"	Blinded to the truth by pride and rebellion against God (Cp., Provl:7; 9:10; Rom1:18).
4	"lovers of pleasure . . ."	Give first place to satisfying lusts, hedonistic (Cp., Philip3:19; Jude18-19).
4	". . . more than lovers of God"	God no longer first in priority (Cp., Matt22:36-38).