

**BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH OF ERIE**  
**SERMON OUTLINE**  
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The Book of 1 Timothy Series # 11

**1 Timothy 4:1-5**

I recently read the inspiring and splendid books; **“The Dead And Those About To Die – D-Day: The Big Read One At Omaha Beach”** by John C. McMannus. Omaha Beach, was the most heavily defended beach, was assigned to the 1st Infantry Division and 29th Infantry Division.

Now, I have said that to say this, Paul is warning young Timothy that we, too, are in a spiritual war and our D-Day is very near and we need to understand and be ready for the spiritual battle that is already now taking place in what he called in V-1 **“the latter times”** or “Last Days.”

Chapter 3 ends with a reference to the church as “pillar and foundation of truth V-15.” The preoccupation of chapter four is a warning against the dangers of false teaching and denial the truth of the gospel in the last days.

Do you know what makes our church different from many other churches in our area? It is our stance on the Scripture. We place the Bible above tradition, denominationalism and political correctness. I am part of this church and I hope that you are part of this particular church for that foundational reason.

This passage calls us as a church and as individual believers to be aware and ready to combat apostasy. That word **“APOSTASY”**, literally refers to **“a falling away.”** Biblically, **“apostasy”** is knowing the truth about Jesus Christ and the gospel message and then willing, deliberately turning from that truth in order to believe a lie.

**I THE CERTAINTY OF APOSTASY(v.1a).**

The source for this information is **“the Spirit.”** And the Spirit has spoken **“expressly,”** which is explicitly, distinctly or clearly that **“some will depart from the faith.”** In other words what the Holy Spirit has said are specific and unmistakably clear.

**II. THE CAUSE OF APOSTASY (v.1b-2).**

Our text tells us that there are really two causes or origins of this departure from the faith. The first is the deception of demons and the second is the hypocrisy of the flesh.

**A. The Deception of Demons (v.1b).**

**“Giving heed to”** comes from a word that is very strong. It means “to asset to” or “cling to.” They understand Christian teaching. They outwardly affirm Christ.

**B. The Hypocrisy of the Flesh (v.2).**

Remember, apostates are those who, like Ted Turner once pretended to be genuine believers. They work in **“hypocrisy”** like an artist works in paint. They are expert pretenders when it comes to the faith.

**III. THE CONTENT OF APOSTASY (v.3a).**

You would expect the “doctrines of demons” to be pretty obvious. In our day, the battle is for the Bible, the authority of Scripture. In Paul’s day it was over marriage and diet. Lastly, we see . . .

**IV. THE CORRECTION OF APOSTASY (vv.3b-5).**

**In verse 3,** Paul says of both marital intimacy and all foods that “God created” them and they are to be “received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth.”

**In verse 4,** the apostle says that **“every creature of God is good, and nothing is to be refused if it is received with thanksgiving.”** Just as God said back in Genesis 1:31. There is nothing on earth that we can’t thankfully receive that will separate us from God. With gratitude we are to celebrate the goodness of creation.

**Verse 5,** he says that not only are we to receive all of creation’s gifts “with thanksgiving”, but understand that everything is **“sanctified [consecrate, made holy]** by the word of God and prayer.”