BEWARE OF THE APOSTATE WOMAN

The BRIDE (the faithful Wife) is intimate only with her HUSBAND (Jesus). The HARLOT (false church system) is intimate with MANY MEN (Unfaithful to Jesus).

APOSTASY is personified as the "Strange Woman, the Harlot". This Adulterer is a "spiritual influence", which attempts to entice, beguile and seduce; Numbers 25:1-3; 2 Chronicles 18:18-22; 1Timothy 4:1; 2 Timothy 3:13; Revelation 2:20

- **A**. The Apostate Woman attempts to persuade "strong men" (chosen men, overcomers), to become "intimate" with her system; Proverbs 7:26. Proverbs 7 is written to "sons".
- 1. Joseph refused the advances of the harlot (Potiphar's wife); Genesis 39:7-21.
- 2. <u>King Solomon</u> loved many foreign women who turned his heart away after their gods; 1 Kings 11:1-6
- 3. Samson succumbed to the seduction of Delilah the harlot; Judges 16:1, 4-19.
- **B**. The Apostate Woman has seduced the Rebellious, the Foolish, the Religious and the Careless ones; Numb. 31:15-16; Prov. 2:16-19; 6:32; 7:7; 1 Kings 11:1-6; Rev. 2:14-16.
- C. The Apostate Woman Appears To Be "Respectable" But She Is A Counterfeit:
- 1. She has false ministers "of light" (appear to have revelation) Jeremiah 23:16, and perform lying signs and wonders; 2 Thessalonians 2:9; 2 Corinthians 11:12-15.
- **2**. She has her own "peace offerings" with which she pays her 'vows": "I will give (send) you a gift, if you give me your money"; Proverbs 7:14; uses bribes: Amos 5:12
- 3. Utilizes "flattery" and "smooth speech":
- a. "the lips of a strange woman drop as a honeycomb, and her mouth is smoother than oil"; Proverbs 5:3 a false "sweetness"; calls them to unite under the banner of "brotherly love": humanistic imitations
- b. "keep thee from the strange woman... which flattereth with her words"; Proverbs 7:5
- c. she has enticing arguments, "fair speech"; Romans 16:18
- 4. Has her own "bed"; Proverbs 7:16:
- a. a false sense of "peace" for those who "recline with her"; Jeremiah 6:14.
- b. has "coverings of tapestry, fine linen "of Egypt"- "woven and stitched" with worldly methods; intermingling; Isaiah 19:9
- **5**. Has her own "perfume": Proverbs 7:17; a false anointing (of flesh), false gifts; a counterfeit "compound"; Exodus 30:32; strange fire; Leviticus 10:1.
- **6**. Has her own "house":
- a. her feet do not stay in her house; Prov. 7:11: she "travels land and sea" to gain a convert; Matthew 23:15
- b. her "husband" (Jesus) is not there; Prov. 7:19, 27
- c. "daubs the walls with untempered mortar" (Hebrew: slime, to smear; frivolity, foolish things, unseasoned); whitewash, Ezekiel 13:10
- d. like Nimrod, she builds her own "city" and "kingdom"; Genesis 10:10; 11:4; Revelation 17:1-2, 18
- 7. Has "carved works"; Proverbs 7:16, means "to hew"; she cuts and builds with her own "tool": "mark" of the beast; Exodus 20:25; 32:4
- **8**. Has a subtle heart own agenda, deception; Proverbs 7:10

- **9**. She attracts and slays "strong men" she "seized her prey"; she "caught him and kissed him", forced him; Proverbs 7:13, 15, 21, 26
- **10**. Has her own "paths" "tolerance" of all, "many ways" lead to her "house"; she has rejected the one straight and narrow path that leads to life; Prov. 7:25; Matt. 7:13-14
- 11. Offers "loves" "caresses", "strokes the flesh", carnal affections; Proverbs 7:18
- **12**. Has her own "attire" she "puts on" her own garment; Deut. 22:11, and offers her own "coverings": titles, positions, recognition, prestige; Proverbs 7:10

There Are Steps That Lead To Apostasy:

- 1. A Believer fails to take the truths, warnings and teachings from God's Word seriously.
- 2. Worldly desires become greater than the realities of God's Heavenly Kingdom.
- 3. The believer ceases drawing near to God, due to the deceitfulness of sin.
- 4. The believer becomes increasingly tolerant of sin in himself and others.
- 5. The believer no longer loves righteousness and hates iniquity.
- 6. The believer's heart becomes hardened, as he ignores the repeated voice, warnings and rebuke of the Holy Spirit.
- 7. The Holy Spirit is grieved and quenched because His "temple" has become violated.
- 8. If there is no repentance within an appointed period of time, the Holy Spirit eventually departs from the former believer: this is the principle of "Ichabod"; Exodus 32:32-33; 1 Samuel 4:11, 21-22; John 15:6; 1 Timothy 4:1; Hebrews 10:26-29; Revelation 3:5.

Signs Of Apostasy:

- 1. It accommodates spiritual decay, immorality, worldliness and idolatry.
- 2. It attempts to exert its influence through seduction, control and manipulation.
- 3. It advocates "tolerance", delivering a mixture of truth and compromise.
- 4. It has a love of money and self-sufficiency: "mammon": Matthew 6:24.
- 5. It offers immediate gratification, a "short cut", another "way": "no waiting, no price to pay, no cross, no pain, no prison, no restraint"; 2 Corinthians 11:4
- 6. It places little or no value on human life; it sheds the blood of the innocent.
- 7. It teaches False Doctrine; Titus 1:5-9; 1 Timothy 1:6-7

<u>Jeremiah 3:1,3</u> - "...but thou hast played the harlot with many lovers...thou hadst a whore's forehead, thou refusedst to be ashamed"

<u>Isaiah 1:21-23</u> - "How is the faithful city become a harlot! It was full of judgment; righteousness lodged in it; but now murderers. Thy silver is become dross, thy wine mixed with water: Thy princes are rebellious, and companions of thieves: every one loveth gifts, and followeth after rewards: they judge not the fatherless, neither doth the cause of the widow come unto them"

Nahum 3:4-5 - "Because of the multitude of the whoredoms of the well-favored harlot, the mistress of witchcrafts, that selleth nations through her whoredoms, and families through her witchcrafts, Behold, I am against thee, saith the Lord of hosts; and I will discover thy skirts upon thy face, and I will show the nations thy nakedness, and the kingdoms thy shame"

See also Jeremiah 50-51; Proverbs 7; Revelation 17-18