

## **FALLING AWAY FROM THE FAITH**

In (1 Tim.4:1), Paul gave a prophetic warning of times of apostasy during the Church Age (CA). Paul described this apostasy as “falling away from (aphistemi/ f.a.ind.3pl) the faith.”

**This lesson will introduce Falling Away from the Faith.**

### **1. Ahistemi (falling away from) indicates a departure from an established New Covenant Church Age categorical grace doctrine to an opposing doctrinal belief.**

An example is the Jerusalem Church conference recorded in Acts 15:1-11. The Book of Acts is the transitional period of changes of covenants, dispensations, canons, priesthoods, divine agencies, Christology, and ministry of Holy Spirit.

The conflict arose in this transitional period regarding the gospel of grace salvation. Legalist taught circumcision of Mosaic Law was necessary for salvation. Our faith is in the finished work of Christ (John 19:30; Heb.9:27-28; 10:12).

- **Legalists:**

(Acts 15:1-5) “Some men came down from Judea and began teaching the brethren, ‘Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved.’” (vs 5) [set of the Pharisees] (1 Tim.1:6-7)

- **Paul and Barnabas:**

(Acts 15:11) “Now therefore why do you put God to the test by placing upon the neck of the disciples a yoke which neither our fathers nor we have been able to bear? **But we believe that we are saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, in the same way as they also are.**” (Gal.2:2)

- **Galatia Believers:**

(Gal.1:6-7) “I am amazed that you are so quickly deserting Him who called you by the grace of Christ, for a different gospel; which is really not another; only there are some who are distributing you and want **to distort** (metastrepho) [To change into another form or to pervert] **the gospel of Christ.**”

### **2. Jesus Christ fulfilled the Old Covenant Scriptures regarding His First Coming.**

(Matt.5:17) “Do not think that I came to abolish the Law and Prophets; I did not come to abolish but to fulfill (pleroo) [to fill a deficiency] (Rom.3:19-22).”

(Rom.10:4) “For Christ is the **end** (telos/ complete) **of the law** for righteousness to everyone who believes.” (Gal.2:21)

Jesus Christ is greater than Moses and the Law (Heb.3).

In Christ, every Church Age Believer (CAB) is positionally greater than Moses and the Law (Gal.5:1, 6, 13; 3:23-29).