

Why People Lose Their Faith

- Deceitfulness of sin
- Heb. 3:12
 - “Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God;”
- Heb. 3:13
 - but exhort one another daily, while it is called “*Today*,” lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

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- Accepting only what appeals to the senses (1 Cor. 1:18-25)
 - Many things are reasonable
 - Universe created by an intelligent being
 - God has communicated to man
 - Man has a purpose
 - Man has an end in view
 - Some things are not:
 - Miracles
 - Salvation
 - So the infidel says, “If I can’t reason it out, then I can’t accept it.”

Why People Lose Their Faith

- Cheated (robbed) of faith through Philosophy

Col. 2:8

“Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ”

“Cheated” by Humanism

- “Belief in a human-based morality: a system of thought that is based on the values, characteristics, and behavior that are believed to be best in human beings, rather than on any supernatural authority.
- “A rejection of a created universe in favor of the theory of evolution and a universe that obeys natural laws.
- “A rejection of divinely inspired ethical and moral codes in favor of codes derived by reason from the human condition.
- “The belief that full responsibility for the future of the world, its political systems, its ecology, etc. rests with humans. There is no God in heaven to intervene and save us from a disaster.”

“Cheated” by Existentialism

- Philosophical movement centered on individual existence: a 20th-century philosophical movement that denies that the universe has any intrinsic meaning or purpose and requires individuals to take responsibility for their own actions and shape their own destinies

“Cheated” by Social Gospel

- Concerned about the here and now & neglect the spiritual

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- False religion (Jude 4)
 - Great appeal (2 Pet. 2:18-19)
 - If one can be religious without any moral codes, why not be religious?On the other hand, if one can be religious without moral codes, what's the point?

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- Lives of (Some) Christians
 - Inactive (Jas. 2:17)
 - Having a form, but denying the power (2 Tim. 3:1-7)
 - Hypocrites (Matt. 23:13-29)
 - Song: we are the only Bible