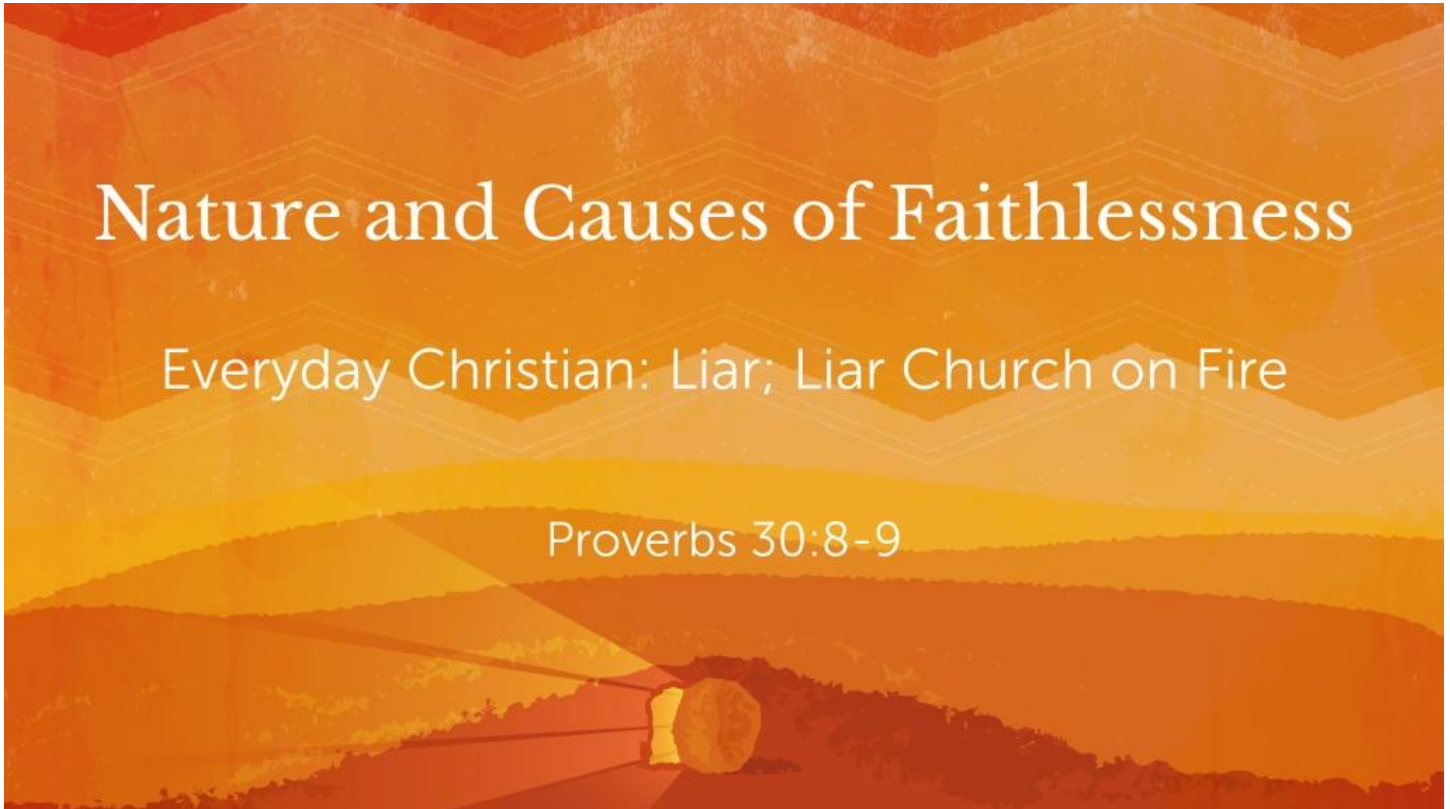


Nature and Causes of Faithlessness

Barry G. Johnson, Sr. / www.BarrysBureau.com

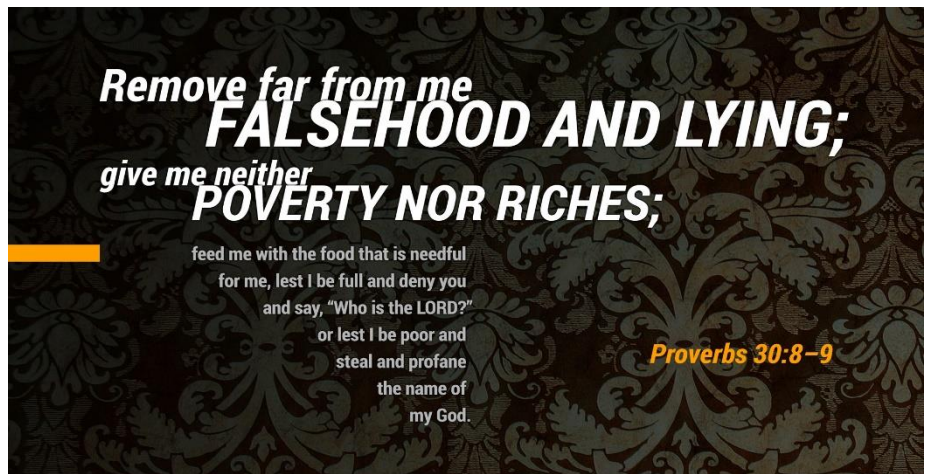
Everyday Christian: Liar; Liar Church on Fire / Proverbs 30:8-9

The abandoning of a commitment to the Lord, seen in disowning him, wandering from the truth and becoming entangled with the world, and resulting in judgment.



Proverbs 30:8-9 ESV

⁸ Remove far from me falsehood and lying; give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with the food that is needful for me,
⁹ lest I be full and deny you and say, “Who is the LORD?” or lest I be poor and steal and profane the name of my God.



Nature and Causes of Faithlessness

Warnings against faithlessness

2 Timothy 2:12–13 ESV

¹² if we endure, we will also reign with him;
if we deny him, he also will deny us;
¹³ if we are faithless, he remains faithful—
for he cannot deny himself.

See also [Mt 10:33](#); [Lk 9:62](#); [Heb 10:35–39](#); [Hab 2:3–4](#)

Ways in which faithlessness is seen

Turning away from the Lord

Hebrews 3:12 ESV

¹² Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God.

Abandoning the gospel of grace

Galatians 1:6 ESV

⁶ I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—

Becoming entangled in the world

2 Peter 2:20–22 ESV

²⁰ For if, after they have escaped the defilements of the world through the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the last state has become worse for them than the first. ²¹ For it would have been better for them never to have known the way of righteousness than after knowing it to turn back from the holy commandment delivered to them. ²² What the true proverb says has happened to them: “The dog returns to its own vomit, and the sow, after washing herself, returns to wallow in the mire.”

Nature and Causes of Faithlessness

See also [Pr 26:11](#); [2 Ti 4:10](#)

Causes of faithlessness

False teaching

2 Timothy 2:17–18 *ESV*

¹⁷ and their talk will spread like gangrene. Among them are Hymenaeus and Philetus,¹⁸ who have swerved from the truth, saying that the resurrection has already happened. They are upsetting the faith of some.

See also [Ga 1:7](#); [Ga 4:8–11](#); [1 Ti 4:1–3](#); [2 Ti 4:3–4](#); [2 Pe 3:17](#)

Persecution and trials

Matthew 13:20–21 *ESV*

²⁰ As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy,²¹ yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away.

See also [Mt 24:9–13](#)

Inappropriate substitution

Isaiah 5:20–22 *ESV*

²⁰ Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter!

²¹ Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes, and shrewd in their own sight!

²² Woe to those who are heroes at drinking wine, and valiant men in mixing strong drink,

The screenshot shows a wikiHow article page. At the top, the wikiHow logo is visible with the tagline 'to do anything...'. Below the logo, there is a search bar and a navigation menu. The article title is 'How to Maintain an Online Relationship' under the category 'DATING > ONLINE DATING'. The article is co-authored by Joshua Pompey and was last updated on March 19, 2021. The article text discusses the challenges of online relationships and offers advice on staying connected, creating intimacy, and building a future together. A sidebar on the right lists the article's parts: '1 Staying Connected', '2 Creating Intimacy', and '3 Building a Future Together'. Below the article, there is an advertisement for 'Clear Sign Someones Unfaithful' with a blue 'Open' button. At the bottom, the article is identified as 'Part 1 Staying Connected'.

Nature and Causes of Faithlessness

Concern for money and possessions

1 Timothy 6:10 *ESV*

¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.

See also [Pr 30:8-9](#); [Mt 13:22](#)

Love growing cold

Matthew 24:12 *ESV*

¹² And because lawlessness will be increased, the love of many will grow cold.

See also [Re 2:4](#)

Sexual desire or teachings

Romans 13:13 *ESV*

¹³ Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy.

James 5:5 *ESV*

⁵ You have lived on the earth in luxury and in self-indulgence. You have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter.

2 Peter 2:18 *ESV*

¹⁸ For, speaking loud boasts of folly, they entice by sensual passions of the flesh those who are barely escaping from those who live in error.

See also 1 Tim 5:11-15

The faithlessness of those who fall away

The absence of true faith

1 John 2:19 *ESV*

Nature and Causes of Faithlessness

¹⁹ They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us. But they went out, that it might become plain that they all are not of us.

True faith is proved by perseverance

See also [Jas 1:2-3](#)

1 Peter 1:5-7 ESV

⁵ who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷ so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

