



CHRISTIANS SLIDING INTO THE PIT

Today there are many Christians that are standing on very slippery ground. They have failed to heed the warnings of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. They have chosen to follow the ways of the world in lieu of the ways of righteousness and the ways of the Lord. They do not realize how much they have slid backwards into the pit. They do not realize that the flames of hell are all about them. They do not realize that they have lost their salvation by not holding fast to the Lord Jesus Christ.

Mark 13:13

13 And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.

Many Christians have failed to endure and stay with the teachings of the Bible. Many have slid backwards into the ways of the world. Many have chosen friendship with the world rather than holding fast to the true precepts of the Bible. Many believe that you cannot lose your salvation. This is not what the Apostle Paul and Jesus Christ taught.

Romans 11:17-24

17 And if some of the branches be broken off, and thou, being a wild olive tree, wert grafted in among them, and with them partakest of the root and fatness of the olive tree;

18 Boast not against the branches. But if thou boast, thou bearest not the root, but the root thee.

19 Thou wilt say then, The branches were broken off, that I might be grafted in.

20 Well; because of unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by faith. Be not high-

minded, but fear:

21 For if God spared not the natural branches, take heed lest he also spare not thee.

22 Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off.

23 And they also, if they abide not still in unbelief, shall be grafted in: for God is able to graft them in again.

24 For if thou wert cut out of the olive tree which is wild by nature, and wert grafted contrary to nature into a good olive tree: how much more shall these, which be the natural branches, be grafted into their own olive tree?

Many in the Christian community have slid backwards. They have slid into the ways of the world and have not held fast to the Word. They have listened to the lies and deceptions of the world and have believed the lie! Many have slid so far into perdition that the sins of Sodom and Gomorrah seem like righteousness. Many even believe that homosexuality is righteous, with several denominations actively endorsing homosexuality and ordaining active homosexuals. With both the Old and New Testament calling this sin, how can any Christian or Christian organization call what the Bible calls sin, call righteousness?

Many in the Christian community who have succumbed to the lies of the world are teetering on the edge of a fiery pit. They are so close to the edge that they are ready to plunge to their demise at any moment. They are ready to slide into the fiery pit of hell from their sliding backwards from the truth they once knew. Just as Israel slid backward, many Christians have slid backward to

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their demise. Once you know the Lord and turn backward, it would have been better for you if you had never known the Lord.

2 Peter 2:20-22

20 For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning.

21 For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them.

22 But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.

It appears that Jesus Christ's prophecy about few being saved during the great tribulation seems to be evident today. Many Christians are standing on slippery ground. They are listening to the admonition of the world and believing that speaking out against Islam, murder of the unborn, and all of the other sins of our time is considered a hate crime. They have fallen victim to the lies and deceptions of Satan telling them that sin is righteousness and true righteousness is sin. Those who believe that it is better to execute a baby rather than to bring up a child by a poor unwed mother have been totally beguiled by Satan. Those who believe the lie that a homosexual was born that way, and that they do not have a choice about their sexual orientation, are deceived. Those who believe that Islam is a religion of peace have their eyes closed to the news about the suicide bombers.

Peter was right that those who once knew the righteousness of the Lord and have turned away from the Lord's righteousness it would have been better for them if they had never know the Lord Jesus Christ.

How many more warnings do we need for us to know that we are living in the last days. We even have the President of Iran wanting to initiate Ar-

mageddon and destroy all of God's chosen people in Israel. How close are you to sliding into the pit of Hell? How close are you to the edge of the pit? Did you once know the grace of the Lord and have returned to the ways of the world? Have you been filled with the Lord's Spirit and have turned around and have gone a-whoring after the ways of the world? Have you seen the miracles of the Lord and have backslid to the way you were? If this is your situation, now is the time to repent and call on the Lord for his mercy and salvation! Now is the time to seek the Lord and his righteousness in an effort to return to the grace of the Lord. Now is the time to come back to Jesus Christ the Lord.

It is not too late to come to Jesus and seek his forgiveness and mercy. It is not too late to repent and seek the grace and mercy of the Lord. Jesus is seeking you today. It is time to return from your hard-hearted ways and return to the glorious merciful grace of the Lord Jesus Christ. Where are you today? Is your pride getting in the way? Are you too proud to admit that you were deceived by the arch deceiver? Are you too proud to admit that you believed a preacher that is preaching a message that is contrary to the Word of God? You need to reject your pride and seek the Lord with all of your heart.

I have seen many who were on fire for the Lord only to turn back to the ways of the world. Satan is doing his utmost to entice you.

Matthew 13:1-30

1 The same day went Jesus out of the house, and sat by the sea side.

2 And great multitudes were gathered together unto him, so that he went into a ship, and sat; and the whole multitude stood on the shore.

3 And he spake many things unto them in parables, saying, Behold, a sower went forth to sow;

4 And when he sowed, some seeds fell by the way side, and the fowls came and devoured them up:

5 Some fell upon stony places, where they had not much earth: and forthwith they sprung up,

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because they had no deepness of earth:
6 And when the sun was up, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away.
7 And some fell among thorns; and the thorns sprung up, and choked them:
8 But other fell into good ground, and brought forth fruit, some an hundredfold, some sixtyfold, some thirtyfold.
9 Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.
10 And the disciples came, and said unto him, Why speakest thou unto them in parables?
11 He answered and said unto them, Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given.
12 For whosoever hath, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance: but whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken away even that he hath.
13 Therefore speak I to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand.
14 And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive:
15 For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.
16 But blessed are your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear.
17 For verily I say unto you, That many prophets and righteous men have desired to see those things which ye see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them.
18 Hear ye therefore the parable of the sower.
19 When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the way side.

20 But he that received the seed into stony places, the same is he that heareth the word, and anon with joy receiveth it;
21 Yet hath he not root in himself, but dureth for a while: for when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, by and by he is offended.
22 He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful.
23 But he that received seed into the good ground is he that heareth the word, and understandeth it; which also beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.

The parable of the sower and the seed describe the condition of many in the Christian community today.

- **Wayside**
These are those who hear the word of God and believe that it is a fable or a pipe dream. These are the nominal Christians who belong to a church because it is the thing to do, or their family goes there, or for the social aspect. They may hear the word, but do not believe it.
- **Stony Ground**
These are the ones who were on fire for the Lord initially, but when their family starts to condemn them for their belief, or are ridiculed they run back to the world. These are the same ones who as time goes by intellectualize Christianity and lose their first love.
- **Thorns**
These are the ones who are busy chasing after money and the wealth of the world. We see them as preachers who are always preaching about money and not salvation. These are the ones who are more interested in what the world has to offer than the gospel that is the true riches.

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- **Good Ground**

These are the few who hear the word and continuously grow in the Lord. They continue to aspire to be closer to the Lord as time goes by. No matter what Satan throws at them, they continue to grow and become stronger in the Lord.

The only ones who are going up in the rapture are the ones who really grasp hold of the Lord Jesus Christ and do not let go. Only the Christians who continue to grow in the Lord and hold fast to his righteousness are saved. Everyone else who claims to be a Christian is in reality a deceived child of Satan who is gradually sinking deeper and deeper into the fiery pit of hell. Where are you today? Are you attending church because it is the thing to do? Now is the time to repent and seek the merciful salvation of the Lord. Are you where you used to be when you first were saved, loving the Lord with all of your heart and mind? If you were on fire for the Lord and have lost that fire, now is the time to repent and seek the Lord's forgiveness.

Wherever you are today, you can still seek the mercy and salvation of the Lord. Don't even let your pride get in the way. Though you may be a pastor, deacon, bishop, or any other officer in your church, if you have lost your first love, now is the time to get on your knees seeking the loving mercy of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Whoever you are, you need to keep going back to the root of your belief. When you stray from your first love you are slipping and sliding down the road to the pit of hell. You need to seek the Lord now and get back on course and change the way you are going. There is still time to call upon Jesus Christ and regain your first love.

Now is the time to stop being a nominal Christian and start on the road to being a true saint of the Lord. Now is the time to get your priorities in order placing the Lord at the top of your list. Now is the time to remember that Jesus gave his all for you and you need to give your all back to Jesus. Repent for the day is at hand when the Lord is going to call his church home.

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