

commit sin, I can seek the way of escape provided by the Lord (1 Cor. 10:13). The Psalmist tells us to put the word of God in our hearts so that we might not sin against Jehovah (Ps. 119:11). Jesus tells us to pray to the Father that we are not led into temptation but delivered from the evil one (Matt. 6:13). Paul tells us to put on the whole armor of God so we can stand and not fall when faced with all the wiles of Satan (Eph. 6:11-18). We all know our own personal weaknesses. Whatever they might be avoid the places or the people who might cause us to be tempted and fall (Prov. 7:7-8).

May God give us the wisdom, the strength, the determination, and the humility of heart needed to stand firm in the faith and never fall.

Jim Mickells

Notes and reminders:

Let us be praying for our Bible study classes and all efforts to learn more of God's word.

Also, continue prayers for those on our list, for those in authority, and for the free course of the gospel and obedient hearers.

*"Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us."  
1 John 5:14*

Editor: Steve Frazier

Meeting times of the church

Sunday:

09:00 am Bible classes

10:00 am Morning Worship

5:00 pm Evening Worship

Wednesday: 7:00 pm Bible classes

Evangelist: Devin Barber

Phone: 904-210-5036

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Hebrew 10:23—25 "Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works. Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together as is the manner of some." But, exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching."

Marietta church of Christ  
8150 Driggers St.  
Jacksonville, FL 32220

Postage

Glad Tidings

Romans 10:15

February 6, 2022



Take Heed Lest You Fall

1 Corinthians 10:12

Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.  
(KJV)

In 1 Corinthians 10:1-10, the apostle Paul told of all the benefits provided the children of Israel by God and yet they still became sinful and were destroyed by Him. There are three words which stand out in this text, "all" "most" and "some." "All" were under the cloud, all passed through the sea, all were baptized unto Moses, all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink (vv. 1-3). Despite the effort put forth by God to deliver them, showing He was divine and in control, with "most" of them He was not pleased (v. 5). "Some" became

idolaters, some committed sexual immorality, some tempted God, and some of them complained and were destroyed by the destroyer (vv. 7-10).

These things are recorded for examples and admonition to all who would be followers of the Lord (v. 11). In the very next verse, a warning is sounded to those who are Christians, "Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall" (v. 12). There are several lessons for us in these verses.

One can become overconfident. It is the person who thinks he stands who must be the most cautious. As you read this text it may well have entered your mind "I would have never done those things." That may or may not be true. One will never know until put into similar circumstances faced by these people of God. Notice this comment, "When one feels most confidence in himself, then there is the greatest danger that he will be presumptuous and commit the greatest sin. Poor in spirit, contrite and humble in heart are qualities that God loves in man" (Gospel Advocate Commentaries: First Corinthians, p. 158). One of the greatest examples of one displaying such an attitude would be

"Yield not to temptation, For yielding is sin; Each victory will help you some other to win; Fight manfully onward, Dark passions subdue, Look ever to Jesus: He'll carry you thro'. Shun evil companions, Bad language disdain, God's name hold in reverence, Nor take it in vain; Be thoughtful and earnest, Kind hearted and true, Look ever to Jesus; He'll carry you thro'. To him that o'ercometh, God giveth a crown; Thro' faith we shall conquer, Tho' often cast down; He who is our Savior, Our strength will renew; Look ever to Jesus: He'll carry you thro'. (Chorus): Ask the Savior to help you, Comfort, strengthen and keep you; He is willing to aid you, He will carry you thro'.

*Hymn "Yield Not to Temptation" H.R. Palmer*

the apostle Peter. He told the Lord he would never be made to stumble, yet when faced with the temptation he did fall, denying the Lord on three occasions (Matt. 26:31-35; 69-75). It can happen to us just like it occurred to them.

One can fall. The word "fall" is defined as, "to fall from a state of uprightness, i.e. to sin" (Thayer, p. 511). A child of God can sin and separate himself from the grace and mercy of God (Isa. 59:1-2). Over and over in the book of Hebrews this principle is set forth. The writer says, "Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God" (Heb. 3:12). Many in the religious world teach if you have been saved you can never commit an act of sin which would cause you to be lost. Why the warnings if such was impossible? In Acts 8 we read of man name Simon, who had been a sorcerer (v. 9). Upon hearing the gospel message, he be-

lieved and was baptized (v. 13), saved by the grace of God. When Peter and John come to Samaria, they lay hands on the brethren to impart the Holy Spirit to them (giving of spiritual gifts). When Simon sees this, he wants to buy this gift with money (v. 18). He was told by Peter to repent and pray so this sin would be forgiven him (v. 22). Here is a person who had been saved and then fell into sin. If he had refused to repent and pray, would he have been saved? No! We can fall from the grace of God (Gal. 5:4).

We must take heed. The definition of the word "heed" is, "to turn the thoughts or direct the mind to a thing, to consider, contemplate, look to" (Thayer, p. 103). What do I need to consider or to contemplate? That I can fall into sin, separating myself from God and lose my soul. What can I do to avoid this? When faced with the temptation to