

Lemoore church of Christ

July 19, 2020

Take Heed, Lest I Fall by: David Sproule

There are some people who teach that once a person is saved and becomes a Christian that it is impossible for such a person to fall away from the Lord. While such a doctrine can be very comforting, it finds no foundation in Scripture. The Bible does not teach that a Christian cannot fall, and it actually teaches emphatically against such a dangerous doctrine. Read 2 Peter 2:20-22; Galatians 5:1-4; James 5:19-20; Hebrews 3:7-19; 6:4-6; 1 Timothy 4:1; etc. In these texts (and others), the Lord clearly teaches that one can fall away, He warns against it, and He gives numerous examples of it happening. Every Christian should truly "take heed lest he fall" (1 Cor. 10:12).

While many New Testament Christians today know that the Bible does not teach the impossibility of apostasy—and they themselves do not teach or believe the doctrine—there are some who, nevertheless, are living like such a doctrine is true. They would not admit that, but an examination of their lives would lead to that conclusion.

Would you take a moment and search within your heart? Does the way that you are living support the idea that you, as a Christian, could never fall? Or does the way that you are living indicate that you are diligently trying to make your call and election sure? Some of us may be on dangerous ground, believing that we are "safe" in our self-defined Christian life and going about trying to be of the world and of Christ at the same time. Such will not work. God warns us, "Let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall" (1 Cor. 10:12).

Can you truly expect that you won't fall if you don't read God's Word regularly and feed upon it like you do your physical nourishment (1 Pet. 2:2; 2 Tim. 2:15)? Can you truly expect that you won't fall if you don't pray regularly and keep a constantly open line of communication with your God (1 Thess. 5:17; Phil. 4:6-7)? Can you truly expect that you won't fall if you don't worship the Lord every first day of the week-both attending and actually worshiping, which are not necessarily the same thing (Heb. 10:25; Matt. 4:10; 6:33)? Can you truly expect that you won't fall if you don't regularly and unselfishly serve others in the church (Matt. 25:31-46; Gal. 5:13; 6:10)? Can you truly expect that you won't fall if you don't talk about the Lord and the gospel with unbelievers and try to teach them the way of salvation (Mark 16:15-16; 1 Pet. 3:15)?

Jesus said, "Blessed is that servant whom his master, when he comes, will find so doing" (Matt. 24:46). Is that you?

Five Minutes with God: This week:

Sunday	Day 201	Luke 12:57-59
Monday	Day 202	Luke 13:1-5
Tuesday	Day 203	Luke 13:6-9
Wednesday	Day 204	Luke 13:10-17
Thursday	Day 205	Luke 13:22-30
Friday	Day 206	Luke 13:31-33
Saturday	Day 207	Luke 13:34-35

Prayer List:

<u>Gary Curtis</u> Spent some time in the ER with kidney stones.

<u>Leah Grilione</u> awaiting test results for COVID19 <u>Denise Dean</u> awaiting PET scan to determine the severity of a tumor on the parotid gland.

Whitney Broaddus medical concerns

Kim Cargill, Stephanie Tischmacher's stepmom

recovering from cancer surgery.

<u>Darlene Wilson</u> pain in her back

Doug Standridge fighting an infection

Red and Marjory Cooper

Lena Jones home but not doing well

David, from a call to Garrett, requesting prayers.

Gary Cole as he faces ongoing medical issues.

Richard Hunsberger, Stephanie Tischmacher's step-dad, is now home.

<u>Bodie, friend of Bailey Radcliff,</u> diagnosed with 2 brain tumors.

Rita Frankmore is recovering at home

<u>Wayne Bergeron, friend of Lisa Butts</u>, has completed his chemo and radiation treatments and, as of now, is cancer free. He is thankful for your prayers.

Meryl Wamhoff, friend of Lisa Butts, has started his chemo and radiation treatments. They will last for 5 months. His cancer has a 66% chance of returning. Prayers needed.

<u>Gary Radcliff, Garth's father</u>, started chemo and is waiting for biopsy results.

<u>Marlon Raygoza</u> that he gets the supervision he needs. Linda Frye, Cancer

<u>Bill Fox, co-worker of Frank Baldwin,</u> blood clots in his legs but has returned to work.

Angie and Tito Cano- Tito on maintenance meds Alexis Raygoza recovering from health issues. Bart Massey, friend of Dixie Blair, stomach cancer Casey Case Jr ongoing oncology treatment Our Mission Work:

- First Responders
- Preachers in Nicaragua
- Agape Village
- Crossover Ministry
- City of Children
- Manuelito's Children's Home
- Church of Christ Disaster relief Fund
- World Christian Broadcasting