

7-30-23 message
WHY SOME DRAW BACK UNTO PERDITION

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Hebrews 10:38 Now the just shall live by faith: but if [any man] draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.
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Luke 9:58 And Jesus said unto him, Foxes have holes, and birds of the air [have] nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay [his] head.
Luke 9:59 And he said unto another, Follow me. But he said, Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father.
Luke 9:60 Jesus said unto him, Let the dead bury their dead: but go thou and preach the kingdom of God.
Luke 9:61 And another also said, Lord, I will follow thee; but let me first go bid them farewell, which are at home at my house.
Luke 9:62 And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.

Intro:

Through the years I have had many friends who have received the gospel. Some have continued in their faith, others did not. Some have lived for the Lord, some have not. I remember one friend that used to play drums in our band. His name was George. Ron Butko and I invited George to a recording session we had in Trenton, New Jersey. We were recording an album for a Pastor whose name was Dan Bartko who was the pastor of Davisville Baptist Church. Pastor Bartko presented the gospel to George and he received Christ. George became a member of the Langhorn Terrace Baptist Church and even became a deacon in the church, but something happened and George decided to go back to the world. Last time I saw George was at a funeral. After the funeral we went to the family's home for a reception and George was outside of the house drinking a beer and smoking a cigarette. I shook his hand and said, George how are you doing. He looked at me and said, not too good. He said Brother Frank.. tell people it is not any better returning back to the world. Warn your people to not go back...

George, died Monday, October 18, 2021, at his home in Falls township. He was 74 years old. Born in Hazleton, and raised in Weatherly, PA , He has been a long time resident of lower Bucks County. George spent several years of his working career with the Carpenters union, #1073, in Philadelphia and earned the title of Master Carpenter. He was an accomplished artist, and musician who had been a former drummer for the late Chubby Checker.

He was also a former Deacon and member of the Langhorne Terrace Baptist Church.

Every friend that returned back to the world, has said the same thing to me. Tell people don't go back. Don't go back.

There was another friend of ours, David Vichish's brother, he was highly successful in the music world, even wrote a few hit records. He professed Christ and started doing music in the Christian realm. He and another friend formed a gospel group and even sang at this church. Then his daughter got sick and died, and he went back into the world. Peter shared with me some of his music that he has produced the Christian element is completely gone. He is an old man now.. his days are numbered, he turned back to the world. I have not talked to him but I am sure that he is going to have great regrets.

What happened to this man? Like so many who started out on their Christian journey.. they fizzled out.. You probably can give testimony of similar stories about people you have known through the years...

Let me share some biblical principles that will help us to understand what causes so many to not stick to their profession but go back into the world.

Our text says this..

Hebrews 10:37 For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry.

Hebrews 10:38 Now the just shall live by faith: but if [any man] draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.

Hebrews 10:39 But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.

The Bible gives a severe warning about drawing back unto perdition..

What is perdition? The word means destruction or damnation, ruin,

apoleia, ap-o'-li-a; from a presumed der. of 622; ruin or loss (phys., spiritual or eternal):-damnable (-nation), destruction, die, perdition, X perish, pernicious ways, waste.

----- Dictionary Trace -----

apollumi, ap-ol'-loo-mee; from 575 and the base of 3639; to destroy (reflex. to perish, or lose), lit. or fig.: -destroy, die, lose, mar,

WHY SOME DRAW BACK UNTO PERDITION

Why do some go back into the world, and draw back to damnation?

The Bible clearly says that these people who do this and stay in that state have fallen back to perdition. In fact the Bible gives severe warnings to those who are tempted to do this..

Hebrews 6:4 For [it is] impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost,
Hebrews 6:5 And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come,
Hebrews 6:6 If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put [him] to an open shame.

People who do this and fall away like this the Bible says it is impossible for them to come back. When they have tasted of the Holy Spirit and his love and forgiveness, and have turned their back on that, what is left to come back to? Jesus did not die twice for our sins.. he died once and once and for all.

I. OUR TEXT CLEARLY SAYS, THAT THEIR IS A FAITH TO SALVATION AND THE SAVING OF OUR SOULS AND THERE IS A FAITH THAT IS IN VAIN..

The reason these fall back to perdition is that they have believed in vain!

Hebrews 10:39 But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.

The Bible is clear there are some who believe in vain..

I Corinthians 15:1 Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand;
I Corinthians 15:2 By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain.

II Corinthians 6:1 We then, [as] workers together [with him], beseech [you] also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain.

Their faith is shallow..

Their faith is not deep rooted..

Their faith is not built on a sure foundation

There is a faith that is to the saving of the soul as Heb 10:39 says
There is a faith that is vain..

Hebrews 10:38 Now the just shall live by faith: but if [any man] draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.

Hebrews 10:39 But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.

There is a faith that is a true faith to the saving of the soul..

There is a faith that is not a genuine faith and it endures but a short time and then fizzles out..

Jesus gave a parable of the seed and sowing and the good ground and the bad..

Notice four instances of sowing the seed is given and only one of the four grounds brings forth fruit. In the parable all in the parable profess faith!

Luke 8:5 A sower went out to sow his seed: and as he sowed, some fell by the way side; and it was trodden down, and the fowls of the air devoured it.

Luke 8:6 And some fell upon a rock; and as soon as it was sprung up, it withered away, because it lacked moisture.

Luke 8:7 And some fell among thorns; and the thorns sprang up with it, and choked it.

Luke 8:8 And other fell on good ground, and sprang up, and bare fruit an hundredfold. And when he had said these things, he cried, He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.

Luke 8:11 Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God.

Luke 8:12 Those by the way side are they that hear; then cometh the devil, and taketh away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved.

Luke 8:13 They on the rock [are they], which, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, which for a while believe, and in time of temptation fall away.

Luke 8:14 And that which fell among thorns are they, which, when they have heard, go forth, and are choked with cares and riches and pleasures of [this] life, and bring no fruit to perfection.

Luke 8:15 But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep [it], and bring forth fruit with patience.

What kind of faith is a saving faith?

It is faith that receives the word of God with

- A. An honest and good heart**
- B. A heart that keeps the truth keeps the faith keeps the word..**
- C. It is a faith that has works to accompany it.. GOOD FRUIT..**

James 2:17-20 James says faith without works is dead

Why then do some back to perdition?

II. SOME DRAW BACK BECAUSE OF A FALSE EXPECTATION OF WHAT LIES BEFORE THEM!

Luke 9:57 And it came to pass, that, as they went in the way, a certain [man] said unto him, Lord, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest.

Luke 9:58 And Jesus said unto him, Foxes have holes, and birds of the air [have] nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay [his] head.

Here is a fellow who obviously had some false ideas about what following the Lord was all about..

If you read about the events in this chapter.. you will see that this man came along at height of our Lords ministry.. Note some of the great things that were happening..

- 1. Note the context of this chapter that may have inflamed some false expectations**
 - A. 9:1 Jesus gave the 12 power to heal and cast out demons.. etc...**
 - B. 9:7 Word gets back to Herod about Jesus.. and everyone was talking about Jesus and his miracles**
 - C. 9:12-17 Jesus feeds 5000 with 5 loaves and two fishes.. takes up 12 baskets of left overs...**
 - D. 9:22 In the midst of all this excitement Jesus warned that he was going to suffer on the cross..... and he prepares his disciples for future suffering... LUKE 9:23-24**
 - E. Luke 9:42-44 Heals demon possessed child. and then warns them again... about what will take place up the road.. a bit...**
 - F. *** Luke 9:57-62 Jesus gives this discourse warning those who would seek to follow him about the necessary resolve in following him...**

Luke 9:57 And it came to pass, that, as they went in the way, a certain [man] said unto him, Lord, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest.

This fellow looked at the excitement and the glory and the crowds... and figured.. this is where it is happening.. and I want to be part of it..

I think some people profess Christ and start attending a large church with a million dollar budget. The preacher is driving a Cadillac. It may seem to some that they are in the Millennium. This is the difference between the contemporary church of today and the early church. Back then Stephen was just stoned, the Apostles were cast into prison, James was taken by Herod and killed.

When a person professed Christ in the 1st century AD no one had to say there was a possibility that they might suffer for their faith.

2. *What are these false expectations people have?*

Some Christians are always looking for a mountain top experience in Christ..

Excitement..

Happenings..

Victories..

Feeding the Multitudes..

Casting out demons..

Jesus had to prepare his disciples for hard times ahead..

Luke 9:44 Let these sayings sink down into your ears: for the Son of man shall be delivered into the hands of men.

Luke 9:45 But they understood not this saying, and it was hid from them, that they perceived it not: and they feared to ask him of that saying.

Luke 9:46 Then there arose a reasoning among them, which of them should be greatest.

Most people do not read their Bible and even when they read it .. they don't believe what it says....

John 16:33 These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

II Timothy 3:12 Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.

When I first got saved, shortly after, Peter Accardi bought me a Bible. I read it.. I had not been to church except that day I got saved, I just read the Bible..

After reading it, I wondered when it would happen, when I would be crucified, or persecuted or killed for Jesus's sake. I was shocked when nothing happened. In fact when I finally started going to church I asked Carl Shonosk after church one Sunday, when it was going to happen. He said what.. I said you know the persecution and all that stuff. He said hold on to your hat it will come.

The thing is .. it does not come the way you expect it. Satan is working behind the scenes today. He is still trying to destroy our faith.

***III. Why do people draw back to perdition.. False expectations:
Those who draw back do not make a strong enough preparation for future hardships and trials..***

Many do not make a resolve to take up their cross when they get saved...

They do not read their Bible..

Or

They do not believe what they read and what it says..

Luke 9:23 And he said to [them] all, If any [man] will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.

Luke 9:24 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it.

Luke 9:25 For what is a man advantaged, if he gain the whole world, and lose himself, or be cast away?

Luke 9:26 For whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he shall come in his own glory, and [in his] Father's, and of the holy angels.

The cross is an instrument of torture, and death...

There is no worse thing that could ever happen to you than to be crucified....

What worse thing could happen to you than to be crucified and be killed?

Imagine what happened to Jesus when he took up his cross..

He suffered... a horrible painful death..

He suffered mocking and rejection...

He was despised...

Now he says take up your cross and follow me....

What could be worse than taking up your cross?

Could breaking an arm be worse..

Could getting cancer be worse..

Could loosing a job be worse..

Could loosing a friend be worse...

If a person really resolved to take up their cross when they sought to follow the Lord.. there would be nothing in this life that could happen to make them draw back from following the Lord unto perdition...

Notice what Paul said.. about his resolve and commitment to the Lord..

Galatians 2:20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

Romans 6:11 Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, [which is] your reasonable service.

Romans 12:2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what [is] that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

I have noticed that people that come to church for a big hoopla when the hoopla is over, they fall back.

These people who just come for the good time and spectacular event seem to lack resolve and commitment, and most of the converts of that sort of evangelism would fizzle out in a 2-3 years..

The reason for this is that most people base their commitment to the Lord on the basis of the excitement of the meetings and not with the resolve of faith that follows this verse..

Hebrews 10:38 Now the just shall live by faith: but if [any man] draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.

Hebrews 10:39 But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.

That faith that is effective to the saving of the soul is the faith that takes up it's cross to follow the Lord.. A faith and commitment in life and even unto death...

Those who are seeking something in this world may be disappointed when they commit their lives to Christ. He said it to Pilate and he says it to us.. HIS KINGDOM IS NOT OF THIS WORLD...

IV.WHY DO SOME DRAW BACK UNTO PERDITION? Short Sighted In Looking at the future benefits..

SOME PEOPLE ARE NOT LOOKING AT THE LONG TERM DIVIDENDS OF THEIR FAITH

I Corinthians 15:12 Now if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead, how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead?

I Corinthians 15:13 But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen:

I Corinthians 15:14 And if Christ be not risen, then [is] our preaching vain, and your faith [is] also vain.

I Corinthians 15:15 Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we have testified of God that he raised up Christ: whom he raised not up, if so be that the dead rise not.

I Corinthians 15:16 For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised:

I Corinthians 15:17 And if Christ be not raised, your faith [is] vain; ye are yet in your sins.

I Corinthians 15:18 Then they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished.

I Corinthians 15:19 If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable.

1. The Main Reason A Person Draws Back Unto Perdition.. is that they are looking for hope in this life.. When they find out that their Christianity is not going to give them this kind of hope or answer.. they are gone.... they go back into this world system looking for some other thing to give them hope... in this life..

Some go back to business.,,,

Some go back to pleasures....

Some go back to other Philosophies and ideas... Ambitions... etc...

SAD THING IS...

They cannot avoid the ultimate tribulation of Death..

And because they shirked off a little hardship here or there.. because of the teaching of the Bible.,... or the preaching of the Bible.. ultimately they are going to face the great judge who wrote this book...

Death comes knocking on everyone's door..

George Burns mocked death and lived out his 100 years.. but he died...

He once said..

I don't believe in dying. It's been done. I'm working on a new exit.

Besides, I can't die now - "I can't afford to die; I'd lose too much money."

Peter and I have been talking to an old friend who used to travel with us in the band. He was one of our road managers. I was talking to his wife about salvation. I said when Peter Accardi first witnessed to me, he told me that he had the assurance that he was going to heaven. She said, I don't believe in heaven. Then I said, do you believe in death. She said of course. I said Jesus came to save you from death itself!

No matter who you talked to everyone knows they are going to die. Salvation is God's remedy from death.

Application: Sad but true.. that ultimately all of us will have to die... Jesus came to give us life.

Some of us can put it off a little longer than others..
Some can live out their lives in a bit more comfort than others..

BUT NO MATTER HOW RICH YOU ARE YOU WILL SOMEDAY HAVE TO CROSS THAT SAME RIVER...

Howard Hughes, one of the riches men of his day, bore his own reprobate cross... He could not escape it..

In 1958, he apparently suffered a second mental breakdown, the first having occurred in 1944, of his days at the Beverly Hills Hotel, his autobiographers write:

"Hughes spent almost all his time sitting naked in [his white leather chair] in the center of the living room - an area he called the `germ free zone' - his long legs stretched out on the matching ottoman facing a movie screen, watching one motion picture after another." The same pattern was repeated in Las Vegas, made worse by a drug habit that included both codeine and Valium. (The codeine had first been prescribed to alleviate pain from injuries incurred in the XF-11 plane crash years earlier.)

When Hughes died... they actually found broken off needles in his arm...

With all his millions Howard Hughes could not pay to escape death!

Jim Elliot, a young missionary who was martyred for his faith, encouraged others to serve when he said:

"He is no fool who gives up what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose."

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Why Do Men Draw Back:

I. They fall back because of the kind of faith they have.. it is not a saving faith.. but they believed in vain..

- II. Because of a False Expectation For What Lies Before them in serving Christ**
- III. Because of a lack of Preparation for trials and Tribulation our Lord warned about**
- IV. BEACUSE OF A SHORT SIGHTED VISION FOR THE BENIFITS GOD PROMISIES FOR THOSE WHO LOVE HIM**

Luke 9:59 And he said unto another, Follow me. But he said, Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father.

Luke 9:60 Jesus said unto him, Let the dead bury their dead: but go thou and preach the kingdom of God.

This fellow had a realistic idea of what it was going to cost to follow the Lord.... and he didn't call himself or even volunteer himself.. the Lord called him and I believe he did follow the Lord and did not draw back... unto perdition

PART II
WHY SOME FALL BACK TO PERDITION

V. DO WE BELIEVE IN THE BENIFITS PROMISED US?

1. WE ARE PROMISED A RESURRECED BODY? DO WE BELIEVE THIS:

I Corinthians 15:19 If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable.

I Corinthians 15:20 But now is Christ risen from the dead, [and] become the firstfruits of them that slept.

I Corinthians 15:21 For since by man [came] death, by man [came] also the resurrection of the dead.

I Corinthians 15:22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

The greatest industry of our time is the business of trying to keep dying people alive. Ultimately the whole industry is a total failure.

DO WE BELIEVE IN THE BENIFITS OF BELIEVINING AND SERVING CHRIST?

2. WE ARE PROMISED VICTORY AND AND ETERNAL KINGDOM

Barney promises a job for supporting Randell.. he never got it..

Do we put our trust in man or God?

I Corinthians 15:23 But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.

I Corinthians 15:24 Then [cometh] the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power.

I Corinthians 15:25 For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet.

I Corinthians 15:26 The last enemy [that] shall be destroyed [is] death.

I Corinthians 15:27 For he hath put all things under his feet. But when he saith all things are put under [him, it is] manifest that he is excepted, which did put all things under him.

I Corinthians 15:28 And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all.

3. WHO IN THEIR RIGHT MIND WOULD WILLINGLY DIE TO SELF IF THERE IS NO RESURRECTION..

Baptism is a picture of death..

When a person is being baptized, they are saying I am dead to sin, self, life.. etc

I Corinthians 15:29 Else what shall they do which are baptized for the dead, if the dead rise not at all? why are they then baptized for the dead?

I Corinthians 15:30 And why stand we in jeopardy every hour?

I Corinthians 15:31 I protest by your rejoicing which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily.

4. IT IS WORTH ALL THE TRIALS AND PERSECUTION IF WE ARE GOING TO HAVE THE PROMISE OF ETERNAL LIFE IN A RESURRECTED BODY..

I Corinthians 15:32 If after the manner of men I have fought with beasts at Ephesus, what advantageth it me, if the dead rise not? let us eat and drink; for to morrow we die.

In 1974 I traded in one career for an eternal position in heaven and place serving Jesus.

Jim, Elliot said it so well..

No man is a fool to give up that which he cannot keep to obtain that which he shall never lose!

One of the reasons people turn back to perdition is because the pull of this world is too strong for them and their faith is too weak to resist that pull.

I have had friends who have gone back into the world. In each case they have come to realize the error of their way.

5. WE NEED TO WAKE UP TO THE TRUTH Be not deceived..

I Corinthians 15:33 Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.

I Corinthians 15:34 Awake to righteousness, and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak [this] to your shame.

The devil... is still whispering in our ears.. You have plenty of time to get right with God.

Jesus gave a parable one time to illustrate the need to be diligent about our preparation to meet God. In that parable he uses an unjust steward as an object lesson to God's people.

In the parable the unjust steward made preparation for his future welfare...

Luke 16:3 Then the steward said within himself, What shall I do? for my lord taketh away from me the stewardship: I cannot dig; to beg I am ashamed.

Luke 16:4 I am resolved what to do, that, when I am put out of the stewardship, they may receive me into their houses.

Luke 16:5 So he called every one of his lord's debtors [unto him], and said unto the first, How much owest thou unto my lord?

Luke 16:6 And he said, An hundred measures of oil. And he said unto him, Take thy bill, and sit down quickly, and write fifty.

Luke 16:7 Then said he to another, And how much owest thou? And he said, An hundred measures of wheat. And he said unto him, Take thy bill, and write fourscore.

Luke 16:8 And the lord commended the unjust steward, because he had done wisely: for the children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light.

In this parable the Lord said, this unsaved man, had enough sense to prepare for his welfare in this life. How much more should we be diligent about meeting God in the next life. He was concerned for his temporal welfare.. we should be concerned about our eternal welfare.

Awake to righteousness.. **WAKE UP WAKE UP..**

So many people seem to be asleep to the truth of Scripture.

It is like people are in a stupor to the truth. Our life is short..

Our opportunities are limited..

Life is but a vapour..

We need to think soberly..

You're not going to die.... and stand before God!

Many years back a tax collector asked me why I was building my house..

I said because I wanted to do something before I was too old to do it.. She said you're young yet, you have plenty of years ahead of you. It seems like just yesterday that I had that conversation with that lady at the courthouse.

Now I am older and I am glad I made preparation when I was young for these days, but a greater preparation is necessary and so few are making preparation for their eternal home.

Psalms 49:11 Their inward thought [is, that] their houses [shall continue] for ever, [and] their dwelling places to all generations; they call [their] lands after their own names.

WAKE UP....

Answer....

Make preparation in this life for the eternal ...

The truth is that the main reason that people draw back to perdition is that they are all wrapped up in the things of the present life and have no vision for eternal things.