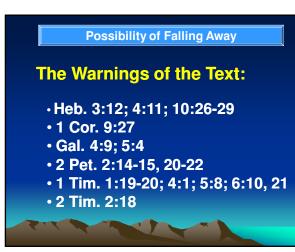
# **Taking Heed Lest You Fall**





#### **Possibility of Falling Away**

# Could Happen To You!

## People Change

Strong – become – Weak (1 Sam. 10:24; 13:8f) Godly – become – Ungodly (Tit. 2:12) Believer – become – Unbeliever (Heb. 3:12f) Faithful – become – Unfaithful (Rev. 2:10)

#### **Possibility of Falling Away**

# How Far it is Possible to Go?

- Possible to go beyond repentance (Heb. 6:1-6)
- Possible to lose soul eternally (Heb. 10:27-29)

#### Evidences of Falling Away

- ≻Neglect study of word (Heb. 5:12-14)
- >Less prayer to God (Dan. 6:10; 1 Thess. 5:17)
- >Growing fondness for worldly pleasure (2 Tim. 3:1-5)
- ≻Making excuses for neglect (Luke 14:16-24)
- >A tendency toward being discontent (1 Tim. 6:8)
- >Lack of interest in salvation of others (Psa. 126:5,6)

#### Causes of Falling Away

- Mixed marriages (Neh. 13:26)
- >Love of money (Mt. 26:14-25; 1 Tim. 6:10)
- Reverting to sinful practices (Acts 8:9-24)
- Returning to false religion (Gal. 5:1, 4; 4:21)
- >Association with evil (Luke 22:54-62)
- >Love of the world (2 Tim. 4:10)
- Self satisfaction (Rev. 3:14-22)
- >Modernistic education (1 Cor. 1:18-31)
- >Gradually missing services (Heb. 10:25)

# **Preventing Falling Away**

#### What The Church Can Do

- Teaching (Mt. 28:20; Acts 20:28)
- Encouragement (Heb. 10:24)
- Elders watch for souls (Heb. 13:7, 17)
  Bible classes, Home Studies, Books, Classes, Gospel Meetings, Computer lessons, Tapes, Etc.

### Preventing Falling Away

#### What The Individual Can do

- Examine self (2 Cor. 13:5)
- Faithful in attendance (Heb. 10:24-25; Jms. 4:17)
- Strive to grow (2 Pet. 1:5-11)
- Pray daily (Luke 18:1)
- Study daily (Acts 17:11)
- Avoid every form of evil (1 Thess. 5:22)

#### **Results of Falling Away**

Worse than at beginning

 (2 Pet. 2:20-22)

 Worthy of sorer punishment

 (Heb. 10:26-29)

 Lost in hell (Mt. 13:41-42)

#### **Returning From Falling Away**

#### Those who fall can return:

- Simon did (Acts 8)
- Peter did (Gal. 2)
- Corinthian brother did (2 Cor. 2)
- Blood cleanses (1 John 1:7)

#### **Returning From Falling Away**

#### What are the fallen to do?

- Repent (Acts 8:22; Rev. 2:5)
- Confess (1 John 1:9; Jms. 5:16)
- Pray (Acts 8:22)

# aking Heed Lest You Fall

#### Possibility of Falling Away

- Evidences of Falling Away
  - Causes of Falling Away
  - Preventing Falling Away
  - **Results of Falling Away**
- **Returning From Falling Away**