THINGS WE MUST DO AND ADD TO OUR LIFE

TO REMAIN SAVED AND KEEP FROM FALLING!

***Written By: Tommy Romans June 2024***

Before we start, Please read **2 Pet. 1: 5 – 10!** Verses 5 through 7 tells us there are seven graces (the fruits) of God’s Spirit that we **must have** and add to our life!! If we are lacking any one of these graces, we will become barren and unfruitful for our Lord! Children, if we ever start lacking these 7 spiritual fruits of God, we can easily become blinded by this world and fall from our own stedfastness.

Peter said – if you add these graces to your heart and life, you will be blessed and shall never fall! It is sad and it breaks my heart to think that many people through the years have forgotten what it was like to be newly saved – they have left that first love, have forgotten that good sweet feeling they once had and enjoyed – they have lost the tenderness and sincerity they once possessed in serving the Lord. They have lost the Touch of Jesus in their life; they don’t pray and love Him like they use to when He was their everything.

 O God, something has happened in their souls - other things have entered in. They have lost their desire, grown cold and have fallen away. I am saying this – “If you let up now in this evil pressing age and you don’t spend time daily with the Lord in prayer and reading His Holy Word, you can fall away from God’s conviction and keeping power.” Peter said in **verse 9** – People can get to a place that they become spiritually blind and forget they were purged from their old sins! The Holy Ghost is saying – “Take heed children, lest ye be Blind, Forget and Fall!”

A PAINFUL HORRIBLE FALL

 It’s one thing to fall and be badly broken physically, to be laid up and trying to heal and get back on your feet again, but O the sorrow, pain and disgrace of falling spiritually!

 I have a precious loving cousin right now that is laid up from a horrible fall, she’s in much pain. She texted me saying – Tommy please pray for me. She fell and broke her hip and they had to do surgery to put pins in to hold her hip bone back together. You might say – Brother Tommy, what has this got to do spiritually in this Newsletter? If you’ll allow me, I will take what happened to her physically in the natural and I will convey the Spiritual to show you what can easily happen when we are blinded to something and don’t see things and we trip and fall. It will always cost you when you have a bad fall.

My cousin, whom I love dearly, has a cat in her house that she’s had for a long time. She’s fed it, petted it, handled it, and it has entertained her for years – **but** it got in her way and tripped her up! This time she was blinded, she didn’t see it coming, blinded to the fact that her pet was right in front of her feet and she tripped and fell. She went down and it hurt her bad. It’s now going to take weeks and months of rehab to heal up and get all her motion restored to be able to go and get around and walk good again!

 I want to ask you – how many times in your life have you tripped over something that got in your way, you just didn’t see it, you did not realize - you mis-judged your step, you either didn’t go around it or you didn’t step high enough to go over something that was in your way? Believe me, it’s not the big things that causes us to fall, it can be something little or small that will trip you and cause you much hurt! I know this is natural, but you can relate it spiritually. The Holy Ghost through Peter said that we must give **diligence** (constant careful effort) to add these 7 spiritual graces to our life to make our calling and election sure so that we won’t trip up and fall. Our Bible warns us plainly that we can fall from the Grace of God. Some people have fallen so far away they can’t get back to where they once were, they can’t get all their motion back in serving God, they’re unable to regain the convictions they once held true, victory and overcoming power eludes them. They now carry scars in their conscience that eats on them. They just can’t heal from their sin and failure. Yes our God forgives and yes the Blood of Jesus Christ still cleanses but many are unable to get back on their feet and be renewed and restored in fellowship and service.

YOU DO NOT want to leave God, backslide and Fall!!! I know of one person in particular right now, how that years ago they were drawing cold on God and started sliding and dabbling in the world. Brothers and spiritual sisters in the church came to this person after service one night as they were starting to walk out the door of the House of God and said – “Don’t do it – they called their name - you better pray, you better get back to God and stay in Church!!! Don’t do it!!” But they would not listen and went out and gradually went deeper and deeper and became addicted to sin. They spent many years away from God and got their life in a horrible mess. I have personally witnessed - This person has tried and tried over and over and even wallowed the altar to get back to where they use to be with God but they can’t get re-established, their conscience just won’t let them, that good feeling and peace they once knew and had is now out of reach! They pray but they can’t feel God’s spirit and the joy of knowing they are right with God and ready for Heaven. Don’t tell me that you can’t sin away your days of Grace and become so hardened that you can’t break through the crust of engrained sin and failure. Sounds like I’m warning some people in this Newsletter. You don’t want to go out now and leave God. You must hold on to your Convictions from the Word of God that He has shown and dealt with you over. The devil, the enemy of your soul will blind you to the dangers that are around you and he will cause you to trip and Fall. I know that discouragements are on the rise and temptation is ever calling and drawing, but don’t go down and out now! You must Hold on to God.

 To have bad falls physically is bad enough, for many now have handicaps and are now crippled for life and many are in their grave because they did not use wise judgment. People don’t see the dangers around them, they mis-judge and fall over something that gets in their way. It could have been something that they have been around and entertained for years that finally at the right moment caused them to go down!

 Are you sensitive to God’s Spirit? Do you earnestly pray for the Lord to lead you and show you things to keep you saved and safe? Will you ask the Lord and allow Him to deal with you about the little things as well as the big ones around you so you’ll be on guard to watch your steps? To go blind in this hour and to lose your bearings and spiritual balance could very well spell your doom and cause you to go into eternity and face God a spiritual cripple and casualty from a fall. Should not we walk circumspectly and make good decisions to keep our path clear lest we stumble? As I am typing this Newsletter, many are setting themselves up for a fall from their stedfastness by what they are now doing and allowing!

 Simon Peter wrote to all the Saints in his final epistle –

**2 Pet. 3:17** – Ye therefore beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also being led away with the **error** of the wicked, Fall from your own stedfastness. (The things of this world around you and other people can get in your way and cause you to Fall and go down!)

IT'S TIME WE MUST INCREASE IN THE LORD AND ADD SOME THINGS TO BE SAFE

 Notice in **2 Pet 1:3** According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

What’s the Holy Ghost saying? God has given us everything we need in the physical life and the spiritual life to live Holy and Godly for Him and give Him glory, but people by human nature are more concerned about the physical than they are about the spiritual. They become focused on the things of the world around them – they forget the spiritual and this is where they trip and get in trouble!

**Verse 4** - Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having **escaped** the corruption that is in the world through lust.

God is saying - By the promises that I make you in my Word, you can have my Divine nature in you and live victorious and Holy in this present evil world! Look closely at the word **Escaped!** It’s a strong Greek word for breaking completely free from corruption. Escaped means you came out of it – God brought you out by His power, you no longer live in its hold and influence. Thank God you saw and you felt the danger of evil. Escape means to get away from confinement – to gain or regain liberty from all that’s unclean and once you get free you stay free – you flee from the presence and the appearance of what is unclean, unrighteous and immoral. You come out of the world’s evil influence and you stay clean – you are not going back to sins filthy prison – you avoid it, you do not want around it – you shun it and stay clear of it. It has no more hold on you, God’s Grace brought you out – You have **Escaped!**

**Verse 5** - And beside this, giving all **diligence**, Add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;

Giving all earnest, constant, continued heartfelt effort, you must add to your Faith Virtue! If you believed and started out right, then you have faith, but faith is of no value unless you use it to increase your spiritual Christian life. Dear reader, this is an everyday process – we must continually build and Add to our spiritual life daily or as Peter said, we’ll become unfruitful, hardened and get to the place we forget and lose that good feeling in our soul of being Saved! I promise you that if you will Fast and Pray and daily read God’s Holy Word and let it become alive in you, you will have joy and strength and overcoming power that will keep you and bless you while others become hardened and barren!

 I am speaking to some people right now! You might say – how do I increase in the Lord preacher and become strong and prosperous? You must act on what you know that God has shown you and dealt with you on. If you don’t obey and use what the Lord has given you; if you’re not faithful to the House of God where the Spirit of the Lord is moving, ministering, blessing and touching - and if you don’t fellowship with God’s anointed people, then you will Decrease spiritually. I feel the Holy Ghost speaking to me through this message saying to you – “If you are not daily Adding, if you are idle in your Salvation and not working, then you are automatically subtracting from your spiritual life and decreasing in the Lord.” Many people do not even realize just how barren they really are in the Lord!

 It’s burning in my heart as it did Peter’s to warn and exhort lest you get to the place that you forget how you were once cleansed and purged from your old sins, lest you lose that sweet and good cleansing touch you once felt and enjoyed! Do you remember how the Holy Ghost once moved on you? Have you forgotten the feeling and joy of being in the presence of God and how the desire and hunger for more of Him was the longing of your heart? Have you lost that Holy inspiration in your soul that once moved you, that you wanted to praise the Lord, you had a song you wanted to sing and a testimony that you wanted to get up and give to tell everyone how good God is? Do you remember that good feeling and Love you wanted to share!

 Remember – Peter said we must - ADD to your Faith Virtue! Virtue is moral goodness – it is purity and clean living in your conduct, thoughts, actions and works! It is your behavior in showing high moral standards. As I said earlier, it will take all 7 of these graces of God to make it to God’s good heaven. If we lack any one of them, we stand a chance of falling and coming up short and unable, unfit to enter!

He goes on: ADD to your Virtue **knowledge**. Knowledge is power. To have insight and understanding in the Lord will save you from a lot of unnecessary troubles! God said through the prophet Hosea – My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. They have rejected knowledge. **Pro. 1:7** - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of Knowledge. It will guide you, it will keep you from many pitfalls and trouble! If you are truly sincere, you will want to know God better, you’ll want to know Him more and learn His ways.

**Verse 6** – And Add to knowledge **Temperance!** The Greek word for Temperance is Eng-krat’i-ah which means self-control – self-restraint – self-discipline of the carnal nature and fleshly desires that each of us have and battle in these earthly bodies that we inherited from Adam’s fall in the garden. We live in an unbridled society of lustful influence and indulgence of evil – a pleasure mad generation where restraints are thrown to the winds that are blowing and millions are filling their lustful cups with ungodly entertainments that are corrupting and damning their eternal souls.

 **1Pe 2:11** – Peter warns us again - Dearly beloved, I beseech you (I beg you) as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;

 We are suppose to be strangers here in this sinful world just passing through. Us true Godly Christians just don’t feel comfortable here, it’s not our eternal home – we are a higher breed, we just don’t fit in - we are a called out sanctified people – we’re in no way connected to this froward generation that’s addicted to every kind of lustful habit and evil entertainment. Thank God we are different, we are peculiar – we don’t dance to this world’s music, we are not moved by its tune and images – we are a Holy vessel of God earnestly waiting for the Lord’s return to call us Home! HALLELUJAH!

 I’m going to tell us – Spirits of devils are very real, Jesus calls them unclean spirits. I don’t want unclean spirits around me, I refuse to let them entertain me – this is the reason our personal lives and our homes must be clean and clear of ALL worldly entertainment and influence. If you’re not careful, what you do and what you allow will open a spiritual door to cause these unclean spirits of this world to enter in and when they enter, they will defile and take control. They will bind you mentally and spiritually. Many good people who were once saved, sanctified and filled with the Holy Ghost have now Fallen – something got in their way and they have forgotten God!

 Dear reader, we are in this thing to Win! God does not want us to slip now and Fall. Can you all say - I started out to win this race, to serve the Lord and look upon His face: Well, the ways been long and the way’s been rough, But there’s one thing for sure, I’VE GOT MY MIND MADE UP!! I’ve come too far to turn back now! O God, plant my feet on higher ground!

Peter goes on: And Add to your Temperance – **Patience**.

Patience is the Grace of God in your heart given by the Holy Ghost that will keep you through your sufferings and trials. Jesus said – In your patience, possess ye your souls. Patience is a virtue that says – just hold on, don’t give up, don’t quit - trust and wait on the Lord! If we don’t keep praying and trusting God, it will be easy to slip and let up. But thank God, Faith gives Patience grip and a set of spiritual hands that takes hold of God’s promises and says I believe my God and I know His Word is true, His is real and He will move, He’ll touch, He will make a way to take me through!

 Has there ever been times in your life that you felt empty and barren? Remember, that’s when it’s the easiest to slip and fall away from God. Sometimes we will battle in our trials to hold on to Faith. When you feel like you’re down to nothing, will you still hold on and be true? Nobody in our Bible could have felt more emptier and barren than the Patriarch Job. This blessed man lost his possessions, he lost his 10 children that died in a storm; his health and his wealth were all gone and we see him sitting in a pile of ashes covered with sore boils in suffering in pain. We can’t fathom his sense of loss and his hurt. In the midst of his trial, his wife withdrew herself from him and he made the comment – My breath is strange to my wife, because she had withdrawn herself from him and had walked away.

 This blessed man had 3 men friends who were supposed to be comforters to come and visit him, but they found fault and blamed him for his suffering and losses. “It’s all your fault Job, you’re not righteous, you brought it all on yourself, you are suffering because of your sins” they said.

If there was ever a time in Job’s life that it would have been easy for him to slip in his faith and fall away, it would have been now!

 I want to ask you – What was it that kept him from falling? What did he have to hold on to that kept him going? After all, his servants that kept his farm had been killed by enemies, his livestock were all gone – killed or stolen; his acquaintance pulled away and his whole farm now was never the same!

 Dear reader, can we all be like Job – right in the midst of his trial he analyzed everything and came to the conclusion: It’s not always going to be this way! Till I die, I will not remove mine integrity from me. My righteousness **I hold fast** and will not let it go. My heart shall not reproach me so long as I live. **Job 27:5**

 Can we be like this blessed man Job – Devil, you might hit me, fight me and temporarily bring me low, but you cannot have my salvation! Others may quit and give up and turn bitter, but I am holding on to my faith and righteousness.

You must realize that everything Job lost was outward, it was material – his farm and home looked empty and barren **But** inside, inside his heart he had something that kept him – it was pure raw Faith in God that said – “All the days of my appointed time, I will wait till my change comes. At the end of this trial I’m coming forth like gold. My suffering is not in vain, it’s not going to last always. I may not understand it all now but I’ve got a feeling that everything is going to be alright, God is going to turn this thing around, He’ll turn this trial into a blessing. Therefore I will trust and patiently wait!”

 Listen children, the Lord is calling to us through Peter – It’s no time now in our life to slip, trip and fall over things around us and this ole ungodly world. DO NOT BE BARREN, no time to go spiritually empty, if you do, you will have nothing to hold on to and great will be your fall. Listen, before you ever fall, your feet will slip.

**Heb 2:1** ¶ Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip.

 Do you know what the word SLIP means? It is to decline gradually from a standard. A downward movement. To slide out of place, to lose your footing and go down. It’s one thing to fall physically, but it’s much worse spiritually! Many in this hour are slipping in their morals, slipping in their convictions, slipping away from God’s divine Holiness, they are falling away from His Word and if they’re not careful, they will find themselves empty, barren and will forget and lose that good feeling of being happily saved and the Spirit of God will be gone!!

**May God Bless all my Readers**