> But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.” — James 1:22

Introduction: A Warning for the Last Days

The name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ be glorified forever. We live in prophetic times. The signs of the end are not only evident in the world’s events but also in the hearts of believers. Jesus clearly warned in *Matthew 24:12*,

> *“Because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold.”*

This is not only about human affection but also the diminishing love for God. Many believers who once walked closely with God are slowly drifting, losing their spiritual fire. The danger here is subtle—it begins unnoticed and ends in spiritual death.

How People Forget God

Forgetting God doesn’t always mean open rebellion. It often begins with slow spiritual neglect:

- Neglecting prayer (Luke 18:1)
- Neglecting the Word of God (Psalm 119:105)
- Compromise in personal holiness (1 Peter 1:15-16)
- Pursuit of worldly pleasures (2 Timothy 3:4-5)

A believer may start off well: praying fervently, seeking the Lord, living modestly, serving in church, evangelizing. But as the cares of this life grow, and the temptations of modern culture increase—entertainment, social media, peer pressure, secular ideologies—these things can slowly pull one away from intimacy with God.

Paul speaks to this in *Galatians 5:7*:

> “You were running well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth?”

Job’s Warning: The Spiritual Withering of Those Who Forget

The book of Job 8:11–13 uses an illustration of water plants to describe the spiritual life:

> *“Can papyrus grow where there is no marsh? Can reeds flourish without water? While still growing and uncut, they wither more quickly than grass. Such is the destiny of all who forget God.”*

Papyrus and reeds depend completely on water. Remove them from that environment, and they wither—even if they still appear green for a while. This is a striking metaphor. When we disconnect from God—our source—we may seem fine temporarily, but spiritual death follows.

Jesus echoed this in *John 15:5-6*:

> “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and

> I in you, you will bear much fruit... If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers."

Who Are "Those Who Forget God"?

The phrase doesn't refer to atheists or unbelievers—it applies to those who once knew Him but have grown cold. You can't forget someone you never knew. These are Christians who once walked in truth, but now:

- They no longer pray consistently.
- They no longer hunger for the Word.
- They adopt worldly behaviors and justify sin.
- They fellowship with the world more than with God's people.

> *2 Peter 2:20-21 warns:*
> "If after they have escaped the defilements of the world through the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled... it would have been better for them never to have known the way of righteousness."

The Consequences of Forgetting God

1,Spiritual Dryness. At first, nothing seems wrong. But just as a tree cut off from water dries gradually, so do believers who disconnect from God.

> *Hebrews* 2:1– *“We must pay the most careful attention… so that we do not drift away.”.*

2, Vulnerability to Sin
Prayerlessness and lack of the Word open doors to temptation. Without the armor of God (Ephesians 6:10-18), we are spiritually defenseless.

3,Judgment

> “Consider this, you who forget God, or I will tear you to pieces, with no one to rescue you.” — Psalm 50:22

How Not to Forget God

God has provided practical and spiritual means to help us remain steadfast.

1. Daily Meditation on the Word

Not just reading, but deeply reflecting and applying Scripture.

> Joshua 1:8: *“This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth... then you will make your way prosperous.”*

> James 1:25: *“The one who looks into the perfect law... and perseveres... will be blessed in what he does.”*

2. Regular Fellowship with Believers

Surround yourself with those who encourage your faith.

> Hebrews 10:25: *“Not neglecting to meet together... but encouraging one another.”*

>

> Proverbs 27:17: *“As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.”*

3. A Lifestyle of Prayer and Worship

Prayer keeps us aligned with God’s heart. Worship draws us close to His presence.

> 1 Thessalonians 5:17: *“Pray without ceasing.”*

> Ephesians 5:18-20: *“Be filled with the Spirit… singing psalms and hymns… giving thanks to God.”*

4. Guarding Your Time and Mind

In a digital age, distractions are constant. We must intentionally redeem our time.

>

> Ephesians 5:15-17: *“Be very careful, then, how you live… making the most of every opportunity because the days are evil.”*

Conclusion: Be Watchful, Be Wise

These are the days spoken of in Scripture—times of great deception, lukewarmness, and spiritual distraction. Let us not fall asleep spiritually or take God for granted. If you’ve drifted, return today. God’s grace is still available. But don’t delay.

> Revelation 2:4-5:
> *“Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken the love you had at first. Consider how far you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first.”*

Final encouragement:
Be vigilant. Be in the Word. Stay in fellowship. Keep praying.
Don’t forget God—because He has not forgotten you.

May the Lord bless you and keep you faithful until the very end.

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