

Shalom! Let us study the Word of God together, especially since the end is drawing near.

We must always remember that salvation is a precious treasure which we must hold on to at all costs. Receiving salvation may appear simple, but keeping it to the very end is not easy. This is because there is another kingdom—the kingdom of darkness—whose sole purpose is to make people lose their salvation, even after they have already received it.

This is why preachers and teachers of the Word must continually emphasize perseverance in the faith. The apostles, our fathers in the faith, made this the central theme of their teaching. They urged believers to contend earnestly for the faith entrusted to the saints once for all.

“Dear friends, although I was very eager to write to you about the salvation we share, I felt compelled to write and urge you to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to God’s holy people.”

—*Jude 1:3*

The apostles saw the dangers and battles facing believers. They were not ignorant of the opportunities, wealth, or business ventures surrounding them in their time. But they knew where the real battle of human life was: the battle for faith.

When one is transformed into a new creation, things cannot remain the same. Satan will rise up to hunt down that salvation. His hatred is not directed at your business success, your wealth, or your education—it is directed at your faith. The moment you begin to grow spiritually, the enemy takes notice.

And when do you meet him face to face? It is exactly when you begin your new life in Christ. If you are not taught this truth and are simply told, “Now that you are saved, you are automatically bound for heaven,” without preparation for spiritual warfare, your faith is in great danger of collapsing. This is why we see so many Christians falling away today.

Jesus Himself warned that Satan would use two main weapons against the believer: tribulation and persecution.

“The seed falling on rocky ground refers to someone who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. But since they have no root,

they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away.”

—*Matthew 13:20-21*

Tribulation refers to the hardships and trials you endure for the sake of your faith. Persecution refers to rejection, mockery, and opposition from people because of what you believe. At such times, you may be misunderstood by family members, rejected by friends, or even opposed by religious leaders. Like the early church, you may face imprisonment or suffer for your stand on the Word of God.

Yet, we must remember: these things happen under God’s sovereign allowance. They are temporary and cannot last forever. As Paul said:

“For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.”

—*2 Corinthians 4:17*

Sadly, many believers do not endure this season of testing. Instead of pressing forward, they give up and turn back. This is the reason behind

the large number of Christians who have fallen away in our generation.

But God has promised that if we hold fast, He will give us victory. The key is patience and perseverance.

“But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.”

—*Luke 8:15*

Therefore, let us fight the good fight of faith, endure to the end, and never let go of the treasure of salvation. The Lord is faithful to sustain us if we continue to abide in Him.

“You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised.”

—*Hebrews 10:36*

May the Lord help us to overcome and remain steadfast until the end.

## WHY IS THERE A GREAT FALLING AWAY AMONG CHRISTIANS TODAY?

Shalom.

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