

UNTO THE END

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"BUT HE THAT SHALL ENDURE UNTO THE END, THE SAME SHALL BE
SAVED" (MTH. 24:13)

Many Called Few Chosen

By Bro. Jim

When a person gets born again he passes from death unto life. As such the person who was bound and trapped in sin is now made free (Jn. 8:36); the person who was stumbling around in darkness is now walking freely in the light (Jn. 8:12); the person who was blind, now has sight (Mth. 11:5). These are the things (and many more) that happen to a person once they become saved or as Jesus calls it, born again (Jn. 3:3). These are some of the benefits of becoming a new creature in Jesus Christ, which is what happens when a person is born again (2Cor. 5:17). We all have choices in this life. Once such choice is, as has just been explained, to leave a life of sin and misery and accept the free gift of God, eternal life through Jesus Christ. As Christians, those that have made this decision we also have choices. We can choose to live for Jesus Christ and operate in the church, His body, as He has called us to do. We can choose to live soberly, righteously, and godly in this life because the power of God is appropriated to us to do this very thing. In fact, it is God's expectation for us (Tit. 2:11-12). But as Christians, we also have the choice to go back into sin if we so desire. God does not create robots. Each one of us has a free will that we are allowed to exercise in this life. The difference essentially between a believer (Christian) and non believer (unsaved person) is that the Christian has been given the power to walk in power and walk above the world, sin, and Satan. The Christian has been given the power to be a son of God (Jn. 1:12). Unbelievers on the other hand are trapped in sin, walking in darkness, bound, and helpless. Their only hope is to be set free by being born again and to receive the power of Jesus Christ in this world. As I already stated, Christians have the ability to

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choose between an abundant life and a life of sin. It is this very choice that I want to address today in this issue of **Unto the End**. Before we get too deeply into this I want to be very clear on something. Just because a Christian has the ability to choose between walking in the Holy Spirit, free from sins bondage and going back into darkness and sin doesn't mean that it's ok to go back into darkness and sin. The Israelites, God's people in the Old Testament, were called of God, set free from bondage (Egypt), passed through the Red Sea (baptized), and given a new life and yet many of them murmured and wanted to go back to Egypt (Nu. 11). This was even the sad testimony of one named Demas in the New Testament. Demas travelled with Paul, ministered with Paul and was witness to many things and yet at a certain point Paul relays to us that Demas has left him, having loved this present world more than the things of God (2Ti. 4:10). In each instance in the Bible, Old and New Testaments where we find God's people wanting to turn back it's NEVER ok with God. Think ye the scripture saith in vain, "He that puts his hand to the plow and looketh back is not fit for the kingdom of God." (Lk. 9:62)? The whole eternal security debate will not be discussed in particular in this issue of **Unto the End** because it is beyond the scope to handle it properly in its entirety but it is worth noting that just because a Christian CAN choose to go back into darkness (sin), just because a Christian CAN choose to return to his or her old ways doesn't mean that it's ok with God and that He still accepts this believer "as he is" and it also doesn't mean that a Christian who has turned back will still make it into heaven. On the contrary, a

born again believer that turns back into sin's bondage and dies in sin will NOT make it to heaven. Why do you think Paul was rebuking the brothers and sisters in Corinth for being carnal? Jesus didn't die for you so you can be set free from sin, come out of darkness into the light, to go from being blind to having sight ONLY to go back into that mess. Does that make sense? If it was ok to for a Christian to fall back into sin and darkness then what would be the point in calling him OUT of it to begin with? In fact there would be no point. Amen. But sadly it does happen. Christians decide to stop walking in the light and go back into darkness. Christians decide that walking freely in the light isn't as good as being chained up in prison in the dark. "Nobody would make that choice" you say. Well unfortunately many Christians have and do make that choice. That's why God says many are called but only few are chosen (Mth. 22:14). The difference between the called and the chosen is that those that are chosen decide to hold fast to the end. Those that are called but not chosen are those that for a time come out of the darkness and walk in the light as true born again believers but something happens during their Christian walk and they end up back in the darkness where they stay and ultimately die. There will be a lot of people in hell and then the lake of fire that were called of God. It's sad but true. Let's now turn to the word of God and find out what exactly happens in a believers life that they end up back in the dark. It is my hope that if you are one who has been born again but have fallen back into a life of darkness and sin, this article will be a wake up call to you to repent, get out of the darkness, get out of prison, and get back on the narrow path, walking in the light where you have been called to be as a born again Christian, "the day is far spent, the night is at hand..." Let us now turn to the Word of God and examine this sad phenomenon more closely. Amen.

"While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal." 2 Cor. 4:8

This passage clearly tells a Christian what he or she is supposed to look at; namely the things which are NOT seen. This is because the things that are not seen are eternal. They have eternal weight. The things that are seen with the physical eye, the things of this world, the things that can be touched, purchased, etc are all going to pass away. Gold cankers, it can be stolen, it can be lost etc. There is a saying in the world that is a true saying, "you can't take it with you when you die". This is 100% true. Therefore, as born again believers we are to set our eyes (spiritual) on the things that are forever; the things of the Spirit; the things of God; the things that have eternal weight. I already mentioned Demas. What a sad testimony indeed. He was walking with Paul, working in the ministry with Paul. He was casting his spiritual eyes on the things that are eternal (which are invisible to the physical eye) and unfortunately at some point he went from that to looking once again at the things of this world; the things money can buy; the things that feed the flesh; the things that unbelievers run after. I can tell you this didn't happen in one day either. He was tempted and Satan came to him in subtly, which is his specialty and because Demas didn't put down all vain imaginations and put cast down every thought that exalts itself against God he allowed Satan a foothold. In time, because this was not dealt with it turned into a stronghold and then next thing you know Demas left Paul and co. "having loved this present world". How tragic that he traded in temporal things that have no eternal profit for eternal life in paradise with His Lord. To the normal thinking person this makes no sense whatsoever. Who would trade in things that are going to pass away, things that cannot save, things that are only for a time in exchange for eternal glory? People do this all the time. It happens when we allow sin to deceive us. Sin is so deceitful my dear brothers and sister. The bible calls it the "deceitfulness of sin" (Heb. 3:13) for a reason. This is why we are told to LAY ASIDE ALL weights and the sin that so easily besets us lest we are deceived and overcome thereby (Heb. 12:1-2). Once sin has taken root in a believer that believer is walking in iniquity and blindness,

"But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins." 1Pe. 1:9

Truly a born again believer that decides to leave a life of righteousness and a life pleasing to God to run after the very things he or she GAVE UP to follow God in the first place is not only confusion, but it is blindness.

“For if I build again the things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor.” Gal. 2:18

Make no mistake about it; the ‘building’ that is being talked about here begins in the heart. It begins when we are tempted of the devil and rather than rebuke him and cast down the imagination we give place to it. This is how footholds begin. The Devil is a master at what he does. He knows the VERY thing or things that strike your fancy in the flesh and he comes to you with these very things. He tells you “yeah hath God said”? He comes to you and says, “Do you REALLY have to give this or that up?” He whispers in your ear that you are serving God and have done a great job giving things up but maybe you can have just this ONE thing. He tells you that all the things you gave up were good but this ONE thing you gave up wasn’t REALLY necessary. If you give place to this then a foothold is established. If you don’t deal with it, a stronghold is established and then you are in sin. God brings conviction but if you ignore that conviction too long then you get comfortable with that sin and it doesn’t feel bad anymore. This is called INIQUITY. Jesus said, “Depart from me ye workers of iniquity” (Mth. 7:23). He was talking to Christians that had gone back into sin and allowed sin to have dominion over them in their walk. Notice in this passage in Mathew these Christians didn’t get into heaven. Why trade temporal things which pass away for eternal life? It’s easy to say “NOBODY would do this!” But sadly that’s not true. Many are called but FEW are chosen. It’s a sad testimony indeed to trade eternal blessing for something that’s here today and gone tomorrow. Such is the testimony of Esau.

“Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord: Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled; Let there be any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright.” Heb. 12:14-16.

Once we get born again we have a birthright brethren! We have been ADOPTED into the family of God. As such our birthright comes with a blessing. Actually it comes with many blessings in both this life but more importantly, the blessing of eternal life with Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. But when we go back into sin and stay there if we die in that state and don’t make it to heaven then in effect we have done the EXACT same thing Esau did; trade a blessing and a birthright for a mere bowl of pottage. Think about what Esau did. He traded the blessing of the firstborn for a bowl of soup. A bowl of soup he gobbled down (he was famished) in mere minutes. Did that soup taste good? I’m sure it did. “Stolen waters is sweet” (Prv. 9:17), that is to say, there is pleasure in sin for sure but let me remind you it is only for a season (Heb. 11:25). Ultimately you will reap what you sow (Gal. 6:7). So was it worth the birthright he traded it for? No way, no how, any way you look at it. And if you asked him, he would admit it was not worth it. The same will be true for all those that have been born again but went back into sin and traded their birthright (and blessing) for a bowl of soup (things of this world). Please consider your life today brother and sister in Christ. Have you compromised? Have you gone back into sin? Have you given some things up for the gospel only to go back to them thinking it’s no big deal? If we build again the things we destroy we are TRANSGRESSORS. No transgressor will make it into heaven. I ask that you examine your life today. Are you in sin? Does sin have dominion over you? You can overcome it if you want but it starts with your desire; your desire must be there to overcome and then cry out to God. Ask God to give you the power to overcome and He will answer you mightily. It may take fasting depending on what the sin is, how deep it is sown and how long you have given space to the enemy. You CAN win ground back from the Devil. He ONLY comes to STEAL, KILL,

and DESTROY (Jn. 10:10) my dear brothers and sisters but Christ came to SET YOU FREE and to GIVE YOU ABUNDANT LIFE (Jn. 10:10). Have you left your first love? The day is far spent and the night is upon us. It is HIGH TIME TO AWAKE and COME OUT OF SIN and darkness and walk in the light (Ro. 13:11). Please take this exhortation to heart and examine yourself today. If you are convicted you can pray something to this effect:

Heavenly Father I come to you humbly right now and give your name praise and honour and glory because you are the only true God and your kingdom and throne are forever established. I thank you for your mercy and longsuffering with me and I thank you that where sin abounded, grace did much more abound. Oh mighty Father I come to you and confess that I am in sin (name sin or sins one by one). Oh Lord in heaven please forgive me and wash me in the blood of Jesus Christ. It says in your Holy Word that You have exalted your Word above your name and it says in your word that if we confess our sins you are faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Oh Lord in heaven please forgive me for (name sin/sins) and wash me in the blood of Jesus Christ my Lord. Please make my garment once again white and pure. I confess I have been stubborn and stiff necked. I confess I have given place to the Devil and had pleasure in sin. Please forgive me and wash me clean. I now come against the spirit of (name sin) and renounce you in Jesus name. I rebuke you and in the mighty name of Jesus Christ I come against your working in my life. Spirit of (name sin) I come to you in the authority of Jesus Christ of Nazareth and command you to be bound and rendered powerless in my life from this point on. I command you to be bound and cast from me in Jesus mighty name. Spirit of (name sin), depart from me now in Jesus name! In the mighty name of Jesus Christ I come against the stronghold of (name sin) and command it to be destroyed and ground to powder in Jesus name. Any doorway I allowed to open I command that door to shut and be sealed with the blood of Jesus Christ. Oh dear Lord in heaven please help me to be faithful. Loose power on me now to be faithful and to love the things you love and to hate the things you hate in Jesus mighty name. Please loose on me the spirit of prayer and fasting. Please loose on me right now the spirit of grace and charity. I pray right now that fasting, prayer, and bible reading would be strongholds in my life in Jesus mighty name. Help me to look after the things that are eternal. I pray you would strengthen me in my inner man to look to Jesus Christ the author and finisher of my faith. Help me to walk according to your word. Order my steps aright oh heavenly Father. I want to serve you and be pleasing in your sight and walk worthy of the calling wherewith you have called me in Jesus mighty name I pray, help me to do this from this point forward in Jesus mighty name Amen and Amen.

Make sure to pray out loud and in power and faith. If your desire is for holiness and righteousness this prayer will be a good starting point to reignite your walk with the Lord. You may also call me and we can prayer together. You can reach me directly on my cell phone at 9870.214.0375. Dear brother and sister in the Lord, if you have left your first love, Jesus is calling you back to His arms. Let that which is lame be healed before it is turned out of the way (Heb. 12:13). Jesus Christ is coming back soon; prepare to meet your God. Thus saith the Lord. Maranatha.

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