

You Don't Have to Fall

Background scripture: Luke 22:31-34; Matt 26: 69-75; Luke 22:61-62; John 20:22; Acts 2:1-14; 2 Peter 1:3-10; Rom 4:25-5:5. 10:9; Heb 7:25

1. We've been talking about Peter lately.
 - a. It is possible to make a recovery after you have made a serious mistake, but I don't think we should over-emphasize Peter's fall and recovery.
 - b. We want to encourage if a good man fall, he shall not be utterly cast down. (Ps 37:23-24)
 - c. Peter tells us after his fall, if you do "these things" you shall never fall. (2 Peter 1:3-10)
 - d. You don't have to fall. I don't think this is emphasized enough.
 - e. Paul never fell after he was filled with Holy Ghost. If he had, he would have written about it.
 - f. We don't preach Peter or Paul, we preach our own experiences.
 - g. If we try to preach "you don't have to fall," the devil will remind you of the last time you fell.
2. We need to rely on scripture, "there is therefore now no condemnation." (Rom 8:1)
 - a. Let's not preach from our own experiences about all our falls. Let's preach what the bible says.
 - b. There is no record anywhere where Paul fell or had a struggle with idolatry or fornication.
 - c. If he struggled, he would have written about it.
3. I understand because if you preach this and you have had a fall, the people will say you can't talk.
 - a. They will know you can't talk and then they still get into your prayer line.
 - b. Now that's a bunch of racket.
4. Let's tie Peter's fall to Rom 8.
 - a. Paul says there is therefore now no condemnation.
 - b. Luke 22:31, let's keep in mind that anyone who became a full-fledged follower of Jesus, not only did he save them but he gave them the Spirit.
 - c. Rom 10:9 is one of the scriptures most taken out of context in the bible.
 - d. Most people just love it. What they have done is embellished it.
 - e. They have added to the scripture "all you have to do."
 - f. When you haven't been filled with the Holy Ghost and had a genuine experience, you will buy that.
5. My experience came from God.
 - a. No one had to whisper in my ear and tell me what to say.
 - b. You have to start in Rom 5 and read all the way up to Rom 10:9.
6. You could become a secret follower of God and stay in fellowship with the synagogue like Nicodemus.
 - a. Although he comes out publicly later.
 - b. Or you can be like the blind man who was put out of the synagogue.
 - c. When you believed during Jesus' time, you were put out of the Jewish society.
 - d. When they put out the blind man, he said I don't know where I'm going to go, but I sure can see.
7. If you really made a decision for Christ, Christ will do wonderful things in your life.
 - a. Is it joining the church? That's part of it.
 - b. Is it getting baptized? That's part of it.
 - c. If you have believed on Jesus, it's when rivers of living waters flow out of your belly. (John 7:37-39)
 - d. We're preaching different versions of Christ.
 - e. Paul said they were preaching Christ to the embarrassment in his bonds. (Look up)
8. Some of you try to preach the gospel to control the people.

- a. When I was a young pastor, I tried to make the people live right. I was carnal.
 - b. You do establish some people but you lose a lot more.
 - c. You're going to wear yourself out.
 - d. I learned that people are going to live right if they want to and not live right if they don't.
9. John 7:37, if you hear the gospel and when you heard it encouraged you to give up smoking, that's according to the light that was given.
- a. If you give up smoking for 40 days, that's called Lent from the Catholic religion. That's a light but it is very dim.
 - b. If it causes you to change your life, get baptized, and join the church, that's more light.
 - c. Catholics have some light and even Jehovah's witnesses do preach Christ but their light can be barely seen.
10. Jesus was and still is the Light. (John 1)
- a. He existed before he came and was God's son.
 - b. Jews said if you say you're God's son, you make yourself equal with God. (John 5)
 - c. We have to see this from the Jews perspective.
 - d. The Jews never had a problem with who God is or Heaven being a real place.
 - e. This is just me and you who have this problem.
11. Jesus could pack out the Hampton Coliseum and run a 10 day revival.
- a. He could preach every night and on the last day tell them I came down from Heaven and most would not believe.
 - b. What Christ have you received if you don't believe Heaven is a real place?
 - c. All these people who have been saved but they are not looking for him to come back.
12. If you're not careful, you will begin to preach "all you have to do" and you don't have to be filled.
- a. You have all the people saved but it is a mental salvation.
 - b. You boil it down and make it so simple a PhD can understand it.
13. For a person who had made a lot of accomplishments and you have a lot of awards, certificates, and a degree, adding Christ to your life is like adding another accomplishment.
- a. Christ is not another certificate or accomplishment.
 - b. Some of you should give "I have accepted Christ into my life" certificates.
 - c. People will join.
14. Peter said we have given up everything. (Matt 19:27)
- a. Jesus must become your 'everything' and not be something you added to.
 - b. Jesus is the fullness of the Godhead bodily.
 - c. Jesus had power to take away sins.
15. The Jews were not confused; you are confused.
- a. You came to him with that in your mind.
 - b. Then he can be anywhere...in the birds and trees.
 - c. When you draw deeper into this insanity, you make God and Heaven to be whatever you want them to be.
 - d. The Jews knew Heaven was real. They knew where God was.
16. Jesus gave the disciples power. God gives us power through the Holy Ghost.
- a. Some say 'but they didn't speak in tongues before Pentecost.'
 - b. Tongues were a gift added on the day of Pentecost to show the Jews later that God had saved the Gentiles.
 - c. The disciples were trying to work in the power all along.
17. Luke starts his epistle telling you of all the people who were filled with the Holy Ghost.
- a. David was filled and then Paul tells us in Rom 4 that Abraham was filled.
 - b. Rom 4:25, he was delivered for our offenses and raised again for our justification.
 - c. If you keep reading, then he tells you in Rom 5:5 the love of God was shed abroad in your heart by the Holy Ghost.
 - d. Never believe a gospel that tells you there is plenty of time until Jesus comes.

- e. We need to look for and love his appearing. We're looking for Jesus' return.
18. When you're filled, you desire an anointing.
 - a. An anointing is more. It's like one piece of cake and then another.
 - b. Everyone is not interested in this.
 - c. If they are it could be spiritualism which is voodoo and witchcraft.
19. Peter was filled but he denied Christ.
 - a. Your light can become dimmer. You become more interested in things of the world than church.
 - b. When your light goes out, you leave.
 - c. Backsliding is not overnight.
 - d. You start doing less than what you did and then you slide back.
20. When people get tattoos they fall deep into sin.
 - a. Then the devil takes you out of here.
 - b. It's not good to get high and do drugs.
 - c. Evil spirits are looking to take full control of your mentality.
 - d. You will go back to work and school, but they will own you.
 - e. They want to gain control of the citadel – your will.
 - f. Stop doing what you're doing because one day you will have no desire to be saved.
 - g. You will become harden in sin through the deceitfulness of lust.
 - h. You ought to thank God you have a mind to be saved.
21. Luke 22:31, some went back and they never had another chance.
 - a. Jesus prayed for Judas but the scripture had to be fulfilled.
 - b. Don't claim your fall is to fulfill scripture. No, you are not fulfilling scripture.
22. Matt 26:69, the damsel came... watch the women. They will trip you up.
 - a. A woman knows a man.
 - b. When Peter denies Christ, he forgot he used to pray for people and had power.
 - c. He was not thinking about being on the mount of transfiguration.
 - d. The disciples thought it was all over.
23. Watch when you are going through a major disappointment.
 - a. Evil spirits will come in and tell you to give up.
 - b. A major disappointment will make you want to give it all up.
 - c. We are aware of his devices.
24. When you're really going through, the evil spirits will work on you.
 - a. We say oh Lord why did you allow this to happen to me.
 - b. We always blame God when it was really our fault.
 - c. We sulk and pout but it is really our mistakes.
 - d. I got a flat tire one time when I was getting off of work. Right when I said, "Lord why did you allow this to happen?" the Spirit caught me and told me never to say that. He reminded me of when I drove through an alley where they were doing construction and picked up a nail.
 - e. The Spirit said from now on, you need to stop blaming God for your mistakes.
25. If we don't blame God, we blame the church.
 - a. We won't ever get right until we say it isn't God and it's not the church, it was me!!!
 - b. David sulked around for three years.
 - c. You know you have not worked it out until you can pray "against thee and thee only have I sinned."
 - d. We blame a lot of people before we get right.
 - e. David wrote Psalms 51.
 - f. True confession means there is no more condemnation. I'm not going to blame anyone else for my faults.

26. David said I'm going to teach transgressors thy ways.
 - a. When you really get right, you will really preach.
27. Matt 26:69-75, Peter was so close to God on the Mount of Transfiguration. He was almost to Heaven.
 - a. You can be so close to God, but we can fall.
 - b. Teach transgressors thy ways.
 - c. King Agrippa told Paul you have almost convinced me to be a Christian and I'm not the least bit interested.
28. When we're in the middle of the enjoyment of sin, we never think about the power, that we prayed for people, or laid hands.
 - a. When lust has conceived, we don't think about these things.
 - b. How could David take Uriah's wife and then have the man killed?
 - c. He forgot he wrote "the Lord is my shepherd I shall not want."
 - d. The beauty of Bathsheba made him forget.
29. The only thing that kept Peter from doing what Judas did was Jesus was praying for him.
 - a. The only thing that keeps us is someone is praying for you.
 - b. He ever lives to make intercession for us. (Heb 7:25)
 - c. There are people praying for you.
30. Stop making enemies in church.
 - a. You are going to need them to pray for you.
 - b. Stop rebuking and making everybody angry.
 - c. You're going to need them to pray for you.
 - d. If you've made everyone mad and angry, of course they will stop praying for you.
31. Peter could have gone out and committed suicide.
 - a. Fortunately, he didn't do that.
 - b. The disciples decided they would get together and decide what they would do.
 - c. They thought are we going back to the synagogue.
 - d. Peter said count me out because I cursed the people out.
32. You can get the mind I just don't want to come back to church.
 - a. You can make up your mind I'm not going to preach anymore. That's backsliding.
 - b. You can give up hope.
33. How many times have you walked away from God because he did this or she did that?
 - a. You say you're not coming back.
 - b. You can become so discouraged you will just call it quits.
 - c. You cannot let people make you do that.
34. John 20:22, Jesus comes into the room and has to breathe on them the Holy Ghost.
 - a. When the one who gave them the Holy Ghost and power dies on the cross, they felt it was all over.
 - b. Are you going through in your marriage? When you're trying to get out of the marriage you're also thinking about how you're going to get out of the church.
 - c. The devil's way is to have you keep on going when you leave your marriage.
35. Jesus said peace be unto you. Jesus looks on them.
 - a. Jesus looked on Peter when he denies him.
 - b. Luke 22:61-62, when Jesus looked on Peter, he wept bitterly. I would have wept bitterly too.
36. Acts 2:1-14, the people were experiencing another spiritual experience with God.
 - a. Remember, Jesus breathed on them and called them when he made them apostles.
 - b. When Peter stands up and begins to preach, there were people out there who he cursed out... like the damsel.
 - c. The folks who were warming by the fire are probably sitting out there.
 - d. Peter had to have a retransformation.

- e. He had to be born again and do his first works over again.
37. He wasn't like Saul. Saul kept on until God wouldn't forgive him anymore.
 - a. The Spirit left Saul.
 - b. You never know when the Spirit will leave.
 - c. You may keep carrying on but he could leave.
 - d. Finally, Saul went to the witch.
 - e. Some wives go to the psychic to find out if their husband has another woman.
 - f. Only you and you alone know when the Spirit leaves. You know when he came in so you know when he leaves.
38. No matter what you have done, you can make a full recovery.
 - a. You have to be renewed.
 - b. Don't go drag around in every bar and live in sin for 10 years and return and want to pick up where you left off.
 - c. Some people still want to be an elder. They try to strike a bargain with you.
 - d. You can live nothing and preach.
 - e. You can take a subject and have folks standing on their feet.
39. Peter, standing up, says ye men of Judea.
 - a. Is this the same man at the fire?
 - b. All that was over. If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature. Old things are passed away...
 - c. It does not take us long to put your faults behind us, but it affects you more.
 - d. We're saying why don't he just go ahead and preach.
40. Acts 9, Paul saw that light and heard the voice.
 - a. He was filled with the Holy Ghost and spoke in tongues.
 - b. We can't give the people what we don't believe in doing.
 - c. The scales fell from his eyes.
 - d. Saul saw everything he was going to do and suffer - all the beatings, stoning, and persecutions.
 - e. He had to have a very dramatic experience because God knew he was going to need this stamped in his memory.
 - f. It had to be a deep experience.
 - g. You're going to need that when you walk out of here.
41. When you have a shallow experience, you give up preaching and find another career.
 - a. Do you remember the day you were filled?
 - b. Your experience is what pushes you when you're really going through.
 - c. This is what brings you back every time.
 - d. You have to open your heart to him when he comes.
 - e. He wants a deep relationship with you.
 - f. If the storm comes, you won't deny him.
 - g. If every member saw a light or heard a voice, they could be beaten, stoned, but they will get up.
 - h. This is not just a confession, but an experience.