

The Green Letters

Faith & Time

Review



Review

- **Based on fact**
- **Is defined as dependence on God**
- **Required for everything/ all circumstances**
- **Requires we know Him**
- **Is built from all things given from the Fathers hand, i.e. trials etc. - “the very food of faith.”**





“to accept and teach that a Blood-bought child of God can fall from grace is to conflict with the very nature, character, and sovereign purpose of God, as well as His justice and His love.”

Warnings

“Such teaching conflicts with **the nature of God** in that the believer is declared to be ‘partaker of the divine nature’

(2 Peter 1:4); ‘born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God’ (John 1: 13); and indwelt by the Holy Spirit God (John 14:16, 17).



Warnings

“It conflicts with **the character of God**—His faithfulness and truthfulness, in that the life He imparts He gives His pledge to maintain. His promise is, ‘I give into them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man (self is also “any man”) pluck them out of My hand’ (John 10:28): ‘and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life’ (John 5:24).



Warnings

“Also, the doctrine of ‘falling from grace’ **conflicts with the sovereign purpose of God** as set forth in Romans 8:28-30, where the believer is seen in the purpose of God in the eternity of the past, in His foreknowledge and predestination, and in the eternity of the future sharing the very glory of Christ (John 17:22-26).



Warnings



“Then, it **conflicts with the justice of God**, in that God declares concerning the believer, ‘Your life is hid with Christ in God’ (Col. 3:3), and that there is now ‘no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus,’ and no separation ‘from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord’ (Rom. 8:1, 37-39). Thus, we can thank our Heavenly Father for His justice because it is this which preserves the child of God from a second charge:

*‘Payment, God cannot twice demand,
First at my bleeding Surety’s hand,
And then again at mine.’*

Warnings



Lastly, it **conflicts with the love of God**, in that God declares His love ‘an everlasting love’ from which nothing ‘shall be able to separate,’ for He is ‘able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy’

Jer. 31:3 The LORD appeared to us in the past, saying: “I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness. Rom. 8:39 neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Jude 24 ²⁴ To him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy—.”

Time



How old were they when?

- Abraham –he was renamed Abraham from Abram 99 years old, Isaac was born when he was 100
- Isaac had Esau and Jacob at 60
- Jacob/ Israel when he marries (Leah/ Rachel) 65-70, Has Joseph at 90 years of age
- Joseph was 17 when sold, 30's when appointed by Pharaoh
- Daniel 82+ when sent to the lion's den

Time

- ***Principle of Growth:*** God does not hurry in His development of our Christian life.
- We must get to know ourselves and that we have ***NO STRENGTH***
- **Remember God is working from and for eternity! God Himself will modify the pace.**

"being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ" Phil. 1:6

Time



Time



Time

The Christian life *matures* and becomes *fruitful* in principle of growth

“but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.”
2Pet. 3:18



Time

- There are ***NO SHORTCUTS TO REALITY!*** Unless the **TIME FACTOR** is acknowledged . . .there is **DANGER IN TURNING TO FALSE ENTICEMENTS .**

Kairos vs. Chronos

- The Husbandman's method for true spiritual growth involves **Pain** as well as **Joy**, **Suffering** as well as **Happiness**, **Failure** as well as **Success**, **Inactivity** as well as **Service**, **Death** as well as **Life** the temptation to shortcut is especially strong unless we see the value of, and submit to, the necessity of the time element.

Time

- It takes **TIME** to get to know ourselves; it takes **TIME** and **ETERNITY** to get to know our infinite Lord Jesus Christ.
- Today is the day to put our hand to the plow and to **irrevocably set our heart** on His goal for us “**that I may know Him** and the power of His resurrection.” *Phil 3: 10*

Table Discussion

'I will not drive them out from before thee in one year; lest the land become desolate, and the beast of the field multiply against thee. By little and little I will drive them out before thee, until thou be increased'

Ex. 23:29,30

- What application do you see for Christians today?
- How do we live in understanding of the principle God reveals in this passage?

