

# **Falling from the Grace of God.**

Bill Holdstock

I have come across this subject quite a few times in the course of my studies, this has made me go back to the Bible to see once again what Jesus says about it to satisfy myself yet again that it is a dangerous thing to take Jesus for granted or play fast and loose with the death of Jesus on the cross. I am just passing on what I have found in the Bible in the hope that it will help you if you are undecided about this subject or of a mind to turn away from Jesus. As my father used to say if you don't like what I have written take it up with God it's His word.

This creeping death of coronavirus reminds me of the Bible story of Gods judgement on Egypt for their treatment of His people and rebellion against God. This death came upon Egypt slowly and surely killing all the firstborn of man and beast causing terrible pain and hardship to all. Although I don't believe God sent this virus, I do believe He has allowed it to happen as a wakeup call. It has taken something like this virus, the floods, the fires to bring the nations to their knees, literally in the streets in some nations. Surely, just like Egypt God is calling us to repentance, we cannot keep going our own way ignoring our Saviour without some correction from Almighty God. God gave His only Son to pay the price of sin which we could not pay ourselves so that we could have our sins forgiven and have fellowship with the Trinity (John 3. 16).

Think about this for a while, how would you feel if you gave your son, your only son as a sacrifice for people who did not appreciate it and you watched as people completely ignored your son and showed no respect whatsoever. You would feel distraught and sad, that is how God feels.

That is also how God feels when one of His children turns from His everlasting love and returns to sin. I know many who have done just that, they think they are still saved and will still get to heaven but also want to mix with the world. We must get one thing very clear and preachers do not help with this. They preach that nothing can take you from God's love. Nothing can take you out of God's hand; you are safe in the arms of Jesus, even the Bible tells us this and this of course is true. But God gave us a free will and a person can just as easily remove themselves from His grace and love as he can accept Him in the first place. This is the bit that preachers do not mention for all sorts of reasons one of which is they do not want to offend! Well the Bible can offend and often does; the words of Jesus can offend but those mostly offended are Almighty God and His Son. But don't take my word for it take it from the Word of God.

## **Satan**

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Ezekiel 28:12-17.

The earthly king of Tyre was a symbol of his sponsor Satan who was created perfect.

*Son of man take up a lamentation upon the king of Tyrus and say unto him, thus says the Lord God; you seal up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty.*

Words like this could not refer to mortal man in fact they refer to Satan when he was originally created, and "seal up the sum" means Satan was created the most beautiful being of all of God's creation, he was complete, and served God in Holiness and Righteousness for a given period of time.

*You have been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was your covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald and the carbuncle and gold and the workmanship of your tabrets and of your pipes was prepared in you in the day that you were created.*

### Ezekiel 28: verse 15

*You were perfect in your ways from the day you were created until iniquity was found in you.*

More about Satan can be found in the study “Satan’s Ambition” on the study web site [www.wordlightmypath.com](http://www.wordlightmypath.com) this should be read to learn how Satan became full of pride and desired to be like God. Pride is a sin and God cannot look upon sin or entertain it in any way. It even disappointed Jesus when His loving father could not look on Him when He was alone on the cross. Jesus took on himself the sin of the world and His own father turned His eyes from His Son and Jesus cried...

**“Why have you forsaken me”.**

### Ezekiel 28: verse 17

*Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty, you have corrupted your wisdom by reason of your brightness; (splendour) I will cast you to the ground, I will lay you before kings, that they may behold you.*

*18. You have defiled your sanctuaries by the multitude of your iniquities, by the iniquities of your traffick; therefore will I bring forth a fire from the midst of you, it shall devour you and I will bring you to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all them that behold you.*

These sanctuaries belonged to Satan from the pre-Adamic world when Satan was the worship leader to his subjects bringing praise to God. Some of these subjects were encouraged by Satan to rebel against God and as we know Satan and his fallen angels were cast out of heaven. He became sinful and lustful. Don’t forget he was created the most perfect being by God Himself and dwelt in heaven! What a fall from grace!

### John 8:44

*You are of your father the devil and the lusts of your father you will do.*

Satan is destined to eternal hell and so are those that follow him.

### Mathew 25:41

*Then shall He say also unto them on the left hand depart from me you cursed, into everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels.*

Satan was created by God a perfect being but was found to be in sin and cast out of the presence of God along with 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the heavenly host.

## **Holy Angels**

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The Bible reports that 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of God’s Holy angels rebelled with Satan and they were cast down to earth destined for hell.

### Rev.12: 3

*And there appeared another sign from heaven and behold a great red dragon having seven heads, (refers to the Empires that persecuted Israel in John’s day, they were Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Persia, Greece and Rome all under the control of Satan. See The Most High God [www.wordlightmypath.com](http://www.wordlightmypath.com)).*

Verse 4 *and his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven and did cast them to the earth.* These angels (see v 9) were with God, worshipped God, saw His wonderful works, were even

created by God and yet rebelled against Him and were cast from God's presence. Many of these Angels committed the sin of fornication and are now in hell.

#### 2 Peter 2:4

*For if God spared not the Angels who sinned and cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains of darkness to be reserved unto Judgment.*

#### Jude 6.

*And the Angels which kept not their first estate (of belonging to and worshipping God) but left (of their own free will) their own habitation, (their God given place in heaven) the Lord has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the Judgment of the great Day.*

These angels, under the leadership of Satan wanted to spoil the human lineage through which the Messiah would come. They wanted to corrupt that lineage by marrying and inter marrying the daughters of men producing a mongrel race. Some of these became giants showing how disruptive Satan's plan could be (Genesis 6.) It would appear that unrepentant sin will stop the certainty of eternal life in heaven.

## **Adam and Eve**

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#### Genesis 1: 26-31

God created Adam and Eve in the image of Himself that is His likeness not His attributes. But man allowed sin to enter his being, his heart, his mind and he became sinful which made God on occasions regret creating man. Both Adam and Eve fell from grace and lost the eternal life they once had if they had not sinned the sin of rebellion.

#### Genesis 2:17.

*But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, you shall not eat of it for in the day that you eat thereof you shall surely die.*

Spiritual Death is separation from God it was not the tree of knowledge that was the cause of their spiritual death but disobedience to the Word of God and Adam and Eve chose to disobey so they fell from the grace of God. (Genesis 3:1-19)

#### Romans 5:12

*Wherefore as by one man sin entered into the world (by Adam's fall from grace) so death passed upon all men for all have sinned (we are born into sin).*

#### Hebrews 11:8-16.

Adam and Eve are not listed in the Hebrews 'hall of faith' along with Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Sarah etc. but the Bible says that those listed *all died in faith* they all received the promise of God by faith, nothing is said of Adam and Eve's salvation from sin. God's son would come and the sacrifice system that was but temporary would come to an end. Christ would not come in their lifetime but having 'seen afar off' by faith they continued to believe. Verses 13 -16 confirms that these listed above embraced the message of God and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth and that they seek a country that was not here but seek a heavenly home. They had come out of an earthly country and had an opportunity to return to that land that once was home, but they did not want to go back, they desired to press on for what God had prepared for them. They had seen a vision of hope in Jesus and the things of the world had lost its glow so they pushed forward to the *prize of the high calling*. Do you really believe that if any of those mentioned above had turned their back on Jesus and turn aside from God you would meet them in heaven?

## 2 Timothy 4:7

*I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith;  
Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness which the Lord,  
the righteous judge shall give me at that day;*

Isn't our faith worth fighting for, keeping our trust in Jesus, setting a good example for others to follow and receive a crown when we see Jesus. God promises to punish every angel, man or woman boy or girl who sins regardless of sonship or relationship because He hates sin, it was unrepented sin of mankind that sent His only begotten son to die a horrible death on a Roman cross, no wonder He hates sin.

## **Nadab and Abihu**

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These two were sons of Aaron and were called up on Mount Sinai to meet God.

### Exodus 24:1.

*And He said unto Moses come up unto the Lord you, and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu and seventy of the elders of Israel and worship afar off.*

These men in particular were called of God to meet Him on Mount Sinai, they were anointed Holy Priests unto God (Numbers 3:3) but Nadab and Abihu disobeyed Him by making fire from their own source and not use the fire from the altar made and lit by God. This was not the will of God to use 'strange fire' so God devoured them.

### Leviticus 10:1-2

*And Nadab and Abihu the sons on Aaron took of them his censor and put fire therein and put incense therein and offered strange fire before the Lord, which He commanded them not. And there went out fire from the Lord and devoured them and they died before the Lord.*

Because of disobedience these two Priests, in the service of the Lord, went back to their their own way and displeased the Lord so they were burnt to death. We cannot play around with the things of God.

## **Saul**

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### 1 Samuel 8:6

Saul emerges on the scene when Israel wanted to be like other nations and have their own king. Almighty God was their King, He had brought them out of Egypt, brought them safely through the sea, killed their enemies, fed them in the wilderness, healed them when they were sick, and a whole lot more. But no! They wanted their own king to be like other nations and so shunned the Lord God. It was at this point that Israel fell from the grace of God and followed another king. Samuel warned them of the type of king he would be and 1 Samuel 8:11 shows a long list of the problems they would encounter at the hands of this king that Israel had chosen.

God showed Saul a number of things that were to convince Saul he was chosen to be king, although God called him Captain rather than king, Saul was not God's choice at all he was the choice of Israel. 1 Samuel 9:20-24 tells us that Samuel took Saul to his house fed him and told him his father's asses that were lost had been found, and told the secret things of his heart, and that some 65,000 men were lost by the sword because of his tribes rebellion (Judges 20:43-48). He was given the right shoulder of the meal as a sign of highest respect. Saul was to be Israel's first king so Samuel spent a long time with Saul up on the roof of his house praying and preparing him for kingship.

### 1 Samuel 10:6

*And the Spirit of the Lord will come upon you, and you will prophecy with them, and shall be turned into another man.*

The Lord was going to help Saul become the man he should be, and God would help Saul lead Israel to become the kingdom God wanted them to be. But he failed to follow God faithfully over some 30 years and mercy and grace had been extended to him all that time but he spurned what God offered him which did not please the Lord. And when Saul sought the Lord about winning a battle with the Philistines and not about repentance, the Lord did not answer him (chapter 28:6).

### 1 Samuel 28:5

Saul lost his faith and trust in his God and turned to spiritualism and in verse 16 of that chapter even Samuel knew that God had departed from Saul to the point of becoming Saul's enemy. God bypassed Saul and gave the kingdom to another. If we turn from the Lord having once followed Him and accepted Him God said He will remove our name from His Book of Life and we too will lose our crown.

### 1 Samuel 16:14

*But the Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul and an evil spirit from the Lord troubled him.*

This is a bad translation; the Lord has no evil spirits, evil spirits belong to Satan. All the time we belong to Jesus we are safe from evil spirits but the moment we rebel and turn from the Lord evil spirits are allowed to attack us just as they did to Saul.

### 1 Samuel 16:15/16

Saul was so troubled that his servants saw and felt his bad mood and did not like it so they tried to help!

*And Saul's servants said unto him Behold now an evil spirit from God troubles you. 16. Let our lord now command your servants which are before you to seek out a man who is a cunning player on a harp; and when the evil spirit from God is upon you that he shall play with his hand and you shall be well.*

When a person has decided to remove himself from the love and protection of God he or she will find fault, blame the church, the Pastor or someone in the church, or even blame God himself. The moment we remove God from our lives Satan will take His place and fill our thoughts with all sorts of trash to support the choice we have made. Music on a harp or the piano, or even a full orchestra will not replace God.

### Chapter 31:1-6

Saul was in such a bad way since he rebelled against God he sought to kill David many times, he lost wars against the Philistines, and he had seen David's success and became jealous and utterly defeated in his spirit. Oh, how much we lose when we turn our back on the Lord when we leave our God out our 'Philistines' step in. Saul died along with his sons; he died of suicide and was cursed of God. There was a time when the Spirit of God came upon Saul but now in rebellion the Philistines came upon him instead. Read more about Samuel on the web site ([www.wordlightmypath.com](http://www.wordlightmypath.com))

I wonder if we will see Saul in heaven.

## Many disciples left Jesus

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John 6:66

*From that time many of His Disciples went back and walked no more with Him.*

They found His message was so different from what they were used to, they now refused Him altogether. That's why Jesus said "Take up your cross and follow Me" sometimes it's not easy to be a Christian.

Luke 8:13

*They on the rock are they which, when they hear, receive the word with joy and these have no root, which for a while believe and in time of temptation fall away.*

These received the word with joy, they believed, they confessed Christ for a while bringing the new birth. But without being rooted in their new faith when they were tempted they fell away. So, they did have the grace of God to fall from.

This verse completely refutes the unscriptural doctrine of unconditional eternal security.

Hebrews 10:26

***For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth there remains no more Sacrifice for sins.***

Wilful sin is transferring our faith from the cross and the shed blood of Christ which gave us eternal life, to other things that have no real value at all. And the Bible says that if we transfer our faith there will *remain no more Sacrifice for sin* for that individual. The next verse says the judgement of God and His fiery indignation shall devour that individual. Hell fire shall ultimately come to all who reject Christ and the cross.

## Judas

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Acts 1:25

Judas was once saved because he was a 'familiar' friend of Christ. The Book of Acts talks of taking part in the foundation of the Church, and goes on to say *from which Judas by transgression fell that he might go to his own place.*

This tells us plainly that Judas was once in the grace of the Lord for how can a person fall from that which he has never attained?

Psalms 41:9

Jesus said of Judas, *Yes my own familiar friend in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, has lifted up his heel against me.*

The Hebrew for "familiar friend" is *batah* which means to confide in, to be secure without fear, used over 100 times in this sense. Would Christ call any unsaved man or backslidden person "my own familiar friend"? Jesus said Judas did eat of my bread and at the last supper Jesus explained to the disciples including Judas, that the bread they were to eat was the body of Christ which was to be broken for them.

Psalms 69:28

*Let them be blotted out of the book of the living and not be written with the righteous.*

David did not believe this modern fallacy that names cannot be blotted out of the book of Life.

Neither did God.

Exodus 32:33

*And the Lord said unto Moses, Whosoever has sinned against me, him will I blot out of my book.  
He who overcomes the same shall be clothed in white raiment and I will **not** blot out his name out of the Book of Life...*

Neither did Moses.

Exodus 32:31

*And Moses returned unto the Lord and said *Oh this people have sinned a great sin and have made them gods of gold. Yet now, if you will forgive their sin and if not blot me I pray you out of your book which you have written.**

Moses was willing to sacrifice himself for the sake of the Children of Israel by having his name blotted out of the Book of Life and lose his place in heaven. Backsliders will have their names blotted out of the Book in the same manner.

Matthew 10:1-5

*These twelve Jesus sent forth and commanded them saying *Go not into the way of the Gentiles and into any of the Samaritans enter you not.**

Judas, one of the twelve disciples was commanded to preach about Jesus, warn that the Kingdom of heaven was at hand, heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, and cast out devils. He was included in Christ's ministry along with the other 11 disciples. Could Judas receive power from the Lord to heal the sick, raise the dead, cast out demons, and not be in the grace of God?

He was a sheep in the midst of wolves like the rest of the disciples. Mathew 10:16.

He had the Holy Spirit in him like the rest of the disciples. Mathew 10:19-20.

He was ordained by Christ to the ministry like the rest of the disciples. Mark 3:14.

He was as successful in preaching and healing as the rest of the disciples. Mark 6:12-13.

He was an apostle divinely called and sent out to do God's work. Luke 6:13.

He fell from his ministry through sin **not** like the rest of the disciples. Acts 1:25.

Luke 22:3

*Then Satan entered into Judas surnamed Iscariot being of the number of the twelve and he went his way and communed with the Chief Priests and Captains how he might betray Him unto them.*

This reports the most evil deed ever carried out by a human being, evil beyond belief from one of God's own followers.

John 13:2

*The supper being ended the devil having now put into the heart of Judas Iscariot to betray Him.*

This happened at the end, at the last supper proving that Judas was not always an agent of the devil, he backslid and became a thief because he gave way to Satan (John 12:5-6). Some make Judas a devil from the beginning and not a saved man, so was never under grace to fall from. This is to ignore the plain facts of the Bible; we cannot use the scriptures to suit our own beliefs. He once had eternal life (John 17:2) "*to as many as you have given me*) and again (John 17:12) Jesus was telling his Father that he had kept all those that were given Him save the son of perdition which was Judas Iscariot.

Judas was once a Christian although some say he was a devil from the beginning.

## John 17: 2

*As you have given Him power over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as you have given Him.*

## John 17:12

*While I was with them in the world, I kept them in your name; all those who remain anchored to the cross will be kept by the Lord remove yourself from the shelter of the cross and go your own way and God will remove your name from His Book of Life. Those who you gave me I have kept and none of them is lost but the son of perdition. This wilful act of sin and lost state by Judas was foretold in Palms 41:9, 69:25-29, 109:8, Acts 1:20-25.*

Eternal life comes from God through His Son Jesus Christ and Jesus gave eternal life to His disciples who met the conditions of Salvation. (John 3:16, 1.Timothy, 2:4. Revelation 22:17). Judas was one of the disciples. What could be clearer than this that Judas was given to Jesus and Jesus had once given Judas eternal life and he had spurned that gift, betrayed Jesus and ended up committing suicide. Will we meet Judas in heaven?

## **Ananias and Sapphira**

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### Acts5:1-11

This husband and wife team were among the Apostles and believers in a church who were spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ. They were of one heart and of one soul; they had all things in common and shared that which they had with one another therefore no-one lacked.

Verse 33 of the previous chapter tells us that great Grace was upon them all, not just grace but great Grace. This was no doubt because of their unity and willingness to sacrifice and support the work of the Lord. Many had lands and property which they sold and the proceeds brought to the Apostles feet to be shared among the needy.

Ananias and his wife had land which they also sold but kept back part of the price. Peter explains in verse 4 that before they committed the proceeds of the sale to the Lord it all belonged to Ananias and his wife. The Lord didn't require them to sell their land nor did He require the proceeds from the sale to be given to the work of the Lord this was their own choice. In verse 3 we see the reason this husband and wife team chose to keep back part of the sale price of their land. Satan is behind this whole sordid story about deception and greed. All the while they had the money in the bank it was theirs to do with what they liked but they had evidently committed the proceeds to the work of the Lord and told the rest of the church the amount they were giving. But they gave only a part that was promised and kept back the rest.

### Verse 3

*But Peter said, Ananias why had Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Ghost to keep back part of the price of the Land.*

It wasn't so much lying to the other families in the church but lying to God. Verse 6 confirms there were young men in the church, so possibly there were active families in the church and this was not a good example to them. Incidentally this was the first sin in the early church so an example had to be set.

First Ananias's sin was shown Peter by the Holy Spirit then Sapphira's sin but and they both fell dead before Peter. Verse 11 says, *and great fear came upon all the church, and upon as many as heard these things.* As a result very many came from cities round about to repent and know Jesus and many bodies were healed. So Satan lost that battle and Jesus got the victory.

I wonder if we will see Ananias and his wife in heaven.

## Hymenaeus and Alexander

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### 1 Timothy 1:19.

Paul sends encouragement to Timothy who he calls son, *to war a good warfare* against Satan, *holding faith*, the faith of the cross, *and a good conscience* that is to preach the Word of God exactly as it is written, *which some have put away concerning Faith have made shipwreck*. A shipwreck is a metaphor that Paul uses pointing to those who have abandoned the Cross and Jesus Christ. They put away their faith which led to spiritual shipwreck.

### Verse 20

*Of whom is Hymenaeus and Alexander whom I have delivered unto Satan that they may learn not to blaspheme.*

This tells us that all who depart from faith in Jesus Christ and go back to their first love can only be called blasphemers according to God.

## Many Christians in the early churches

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### Revelation 1:5.

John preached to the new churches and in particular the church at Ephesus which housed the Temple of Diane and the factory where images were made for the worship of a pagan god. The new Christians had a hard time against great opposition (Acts 19.) Although God commended the Ephesus church for their stand against paganism and idol worship God said *He had somewhat against you.*

### Revelation 1:4

There is no doubt that the temptation of Satan and his world is a pull that has to be reckoned with. The one who knows this best is Jesus, He too was tempted just like we are today. That's why He gave us the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit is not only our comforter but he is our helper. When we need help to overcome temptation to sin we can call on the power of the Holy Spirit for help. Some in the Ephesian Church did not fight but gave in to Satan and **left** their first love for Jesus and Jesus said He was against them for it.

We have met some people now let us read some scriptures.

### 2. Chronicles 15: 2

*The Lord is with you while you are with Him; and if you seek Him He will be found of you, but if you forsake Him He will forsake you.*

### 2. Chronicles 34: 25

*Because they have forsaken Me My wrath shall not be quenched.*

### Ezekiel 18:24-26

*When the righteous turns away from his righteousness and commits iniquity and does according to all the abominations that the wicked does, shall he live? All his righteousness that he has done shall not be mentioned; in his trespass that he has trespassed and in his sin that he has sinned in them he shall die.*

### Romans 1:21

*When they knew God they glorified Him not as God neither were thankful but became vain in their imaginations and their foolish heart was darkened.*

Many know of God just as they know of the Queen or Churchill, but do not know Him as a personal saviour. They do not honour Him or glorify Him for what He did on the cross, or that He rose from the dead. Our verse says they are not thankful for what He has done but have become vain and selfish in their thoughts of Jesus imagining they will get to heaven by the works they do, the money they give or their attendance to church.

Jesus says they are fools and have dark hearts and one day will say to them “*depart from me I never knew you*”.

### Galatians 1:6-9

*I marvel that you are so soon removed from Him who called you into the grace of God unto another gospel. Which is not another Gospel but there be some who trouble you, and would pervert the Gospel of Christ.*

This could not be clearer; Paul was amazed that some in the Galatian church had removed themselves from the love of God and left Him. Paul knew the consequences of such a decision, if they were always saved no matter what, he would not need to write such warnings.

### Galatians 4:9

*But now after that you have known God or rather are known of God, how turn you again to the weak and beggarly elements, whereunto you desire again to be in bondage.*

This can only refer to the saving Grace and knowing God through the acceptance of Jesus Christ. “*You desire again to be in bondage*” Bondage to the sin nature is the alternative to living to God and many have chosen to leave Jesus and live for Satan again and be in bondage to him. Do you think we will see these folk in heaven?

I have over 200 verse of scripture that support the possibility to fall from the Grace of God. The Lord’s return is very close we are living in the last of the last days; the whole world needs a Saviour more now than ever before, when Jesus comes back for His saints don’t be left behind you won’t like it.

My prayer is that you will “cling to the old rugged cross” because it was at the cross Satan was defeated and Jesus won the victory. Kneel before Him now and ask the Holy Spirit to help you cling to Jesus and His cross, it is much safer than going back to the things of the world.

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*Be blessed*

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