

Searching His Word

God's Word Reveals His Plan – Remain Faithful

By Russell Earl

The Bible teaches that there are certain steps involved in God's plan for man's salvation. The final step is one that should not be overlooked. If we desire to be accepted by God on that great Day of Judgment we must remain faithful to God.

Once we are baptized into Christ, the struggles of the Christian life truly begin. While the Christian life is filled with blessings, it also involves overcoming temptations, obeying God's commands and enduring persecutions. Paul said this to young Timothy: *"Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution"* (2 Tim 3:12). Just because we believe Christ is the Son of God, we have repented of our sins, we have confessed Christ as the Son of God, we have put Christ on in Baptism, we have been placed into Christ's church, and we desire to do His will, does NOT mean the Christian life is easy and light.

Despite the Bible teaching us that we must remain faithful, some still contend that once you have put your faith in Christ that you cannot fall away. If this is the case why does the Bible warn about the possibility of "falling away" and becoming unfaithful over and over again (Lk 8:13, Heb 6:6, 2 Peter 3:17, James 5:19-20, 1 Tim 4:1, Gal 5:4, and the list goes on and on)?

If we love Christ, if we want to inherit eternal life, if we want our name written in the Lamb's Book of Life, then it is imperative that we remain faithful to God and His commands. This means that when we do sin, because we will, we must repent of that sin and strive to do better in the future. This doesn't mean we must live a perfect life and this doesn't mean we should deliberately sin and then ask God to forgive us later. John tells us that "if we walk in the light as He is in the light" then we will strive to be like Christ and when we do fail then we should ask God to forgive us and strive to do better in the future (1 Jn 1:7).

Living a Christian life isn't living a perfect life. It's living in such a way that we strive to not sin against God and when we do we repent and truly desire to be a better Christian example.