

Fallen From Grace?

Gal 5:4 You have become estranged from Christ, you who attempt to be justified by law; **you have fallen from grace.**

By B. D. Tate

We don't get what we deserve, we get what we believe; however, **if we are getting what we deserve then we have fallen from grace.** The world is fallen from grace. The world is governed by law. Whatever a man sows that shall he also reap (Gal. 6:7). The law of Genesis is that everything reproduces after its own kind (Gen. 1:11). Natural law, physical law, the laws that govern our emotions, and the ones that govern our mind were meant to serve us but when we use them for purely natural life we have fallen from grace—because we are naturally bound (I Cor. 2:14). The curse governs the earth and all human experience. The curse's power comes from the law (I Cor. 15:56). **When we operate just as mere men we are fallen from grace (I Cor. 3:3).**

We are no longer servants of God but His friends (John 15:15). We are not sinners (born again spirit) anymore separated from God but His dear Sons and daughters. We have been made saints, we are His temple (I Cor. 6:19), His body, His dwelling place (I Cor. 3:16), and represent Him on earth **as much as** Jesus did (John 20:21). **When we see ourselves as less than Jesus is we are fallen from grace.**

When we don't believe right, we are fallen from Grace. For example, if I believe that God requires us to confess our sins every day or we will not be accepted in salvation; **then we have fallen from grace.** This is because the basis of our salvation depends upon our performance. What does the scripture say?

Eph 2:8 **For by grace** you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God,

9 **not of works, lest anyone should boast.**

10 **For we are His workmanship**, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

When we begin to think and believe that our salvation is based upon our efforts in any way we are contradicting (falling from) grace. When we begin to live as if our salvation is based upon our confession of sins, our prayers, our bible reading, our church attendance, our giving, our baptism, our service, **we have fallen from grace.** We are forgiven period. We don't need to confess our sins but only acknowledge them in the context of being forgiven. We don't ask anymore to be forgiven we give **great thanks** for having been forgiven. The first way stays in unbelief while the second stands in the truth. Faith stands in His already decided grace on our behalf.

Heb. 10: 14 For by one offering **he has perfected forever** them that are sanctified.

We can quickly hear James:

Jas 2:18 But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith without your works, **and I will show you my faith by my works.**

Jas 2:20 But do you want to know, O foolish man, **that faith without works is dead?**

Our sin consciousness picks up on this passage and immediately interprets it as a combination of faith **and our works**—the continual confessing of sins in this case. As this verse seems to teach:

1Jo 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and **to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

This verse applies to any sinner who has not come to the Lord in salvation. The confession of sins and the proclaiming of Jesus as savior

and Lord established us in ***being born again***. When we are born again the old has passed away (all our sins are paid); behold, all things have become new—we are a new creation (II Cor. 6:17). In our new created spirit we do not sin—ever (I John 5:18). We died to the old man in Christ, in the cross, and the life we now live we live to Him (Gal. 2:20). Therefore, our sins are covered even the ones we haven't committed yet because we died to sin—this is the (gospel) truth. This is the way God sees it. **When we don't see it that way we have fallen from grace. When we fall from grace we lose the power to overcome.**

This verse goes on to say, “...**to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**” If we are cleansed from ALL unrighteousness **that could only mean** that our born again spirit is of the same nature as God. This would affirm the new creation that it does not sin anymore—we've been cleansed.

When we believe that God is keeping a record of wrongs against until we ask for forgiveness we are fallen from grace. We are not fighting the right kind of fight. We are returning to being under the law and back in our natural man condition. The sins that we commit of this realm come from our sin nature and are real; however, in Christ they are paid for and in our born again spirit we are cleansed. Our born again spirit does not sin—ever. We are to live to the new creation not the old. We have died with Christ in the old man; but we live to ***newness of life*** in Him. When we continue to operate as if our sins are not forgiven (when we commit them) we are back under the law (Rom. 6:14). **We are not living to grace we are living to the old covenant.** We are not acknowledging or accepting that all our sins have been cleansed past, present and future.

2Pe 1:9 For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, **and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins.**

In regards to faith and works what good is faith if it has nothing to show for it? Faith should have evidence within us and manifest in obedience in our life. Yet, if our faith must be accompanied **by our works or efforts** then ***we'd have something to boast about***. Our salvation could then be compared to others and weighed in the balance. The grace that comes

through Christ has made us all free in Him and we are all saved in the same likeness of Jesus (II Cor. 3:18). This grace is poured out by God upon all who believe and it simply makes us all even—period. We've all been cleansed from the same sin nature and given the same Spirit in new life.

The works that must accompany faith are not our works **but the workmanship of the Lord!** When we show our faith by our works **it is not our works** but His work within us.

Joh 14:10 "**Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me?** The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; **but the Father who dwells in Me does the works.**

When we walk by faith in His grace this means that we accept what God has done in us through our born again experience. This means that we believe we have been made righteous and stand in the gift of forgiveness always—by faith (Rom. 5:17). When we believe the right things our faith is **established in grace**; therefore, we manifest the works of the Spirit **because of them**, not for them. The difference is huge. When we pray, read, study, confess, or seek to know God's will from the stand point of righteousness and holiness **as a given**, we do them because we have them—we do them from believing His word about us. When we pray, read, study, and confess such things **in order to get them** as if we are not in righteousness or holiness in Christ fully, **we are fallen from grace**. In this position we do not believe what the Word says—we are in unbelief.

John 1:16 **And of his fulness have all we received**, and grace for grace.

When we live our lives regulated by the law we are fallen from grace (Gal. 5:4). When we live our lives in obedience of faith we are living in grace. **Obedience of faith** means we are fighting the good fight of faith. This is fighting to stay in right believing—His grace. The presence and power of God's Spirit works the works of righteousness effortlessly through us; it is simply not our effort. We are living to God and believing

what He said is an *accomplished fact* in us. These are faith facts based in the truth brought to us by Jesus Christ. We can't keep the law and every effort to do so only brings guilt, condemnation, and a sin consciousness that defeats us. We live to Jesus and as we do grace empowers us to be righteous and do the things automatically in us that with all our efforts before we could not do. We strived to keep the law ***to be righteous***; now, in Christ as we live to Him, ***we've been made righteous*** and it manifests in us through His grace.

John 1: 17 For the law was given by Moses, **but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.**

If we live our lives as if *we are living them*, we have fallen from grace. We are bought with a price and no longer are we to live to ourselves alone but to the Lord. Furthermore, this means that we are joined in one spirit with the Lord; Christ actually lives in and through us becoming our life, our peace, our faith, and our rest. **When we separate ourselves from His presence in our life to any degree we are falling from grace—we lose peace and rest.**

When we think and do not consider that our thoughts are brought in obedience to Christ we are fallen from grace (II Cor. 10:5). When we speak and we think that our speech is our own and not mingled with His words as if He were speaking with us and through us, **we are fallen from grace.**

When we think that our prayers are our own and that we are standing in our own faith, we are fallen from grace. We may start our prayers in the natural but the Spirit takes over almost immediately. First is the natural then the spiritual...

1Co 15:46 However, the spiritual is not first, but the natural, and afterward the spiritual.

When we think or act like God doesn't care about our life, that we are on our own, we have fallen from grace. Have faith in God...

Mt 6:8 "Therefore do not be like them (unbelievers). For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him.

There is no part of us that Jesus hasn't redeemed (Heb. 7:25). The old is passed away behold all has become new. In newness of life we are co-mingled with Christ. **We are never alone again.** When we breathe He is breathing with us. When we speak, He is speaking His words and His Spirit with us. When we act in obedience of faith we are not acting alone but the Father is acting with us. **Our very words are His words being spoken through us—when we believe the right things. If we do not believe this we are falling from grace.**

We have been given the same Spirit to do the same things for the same reasons as Christ was given the Spirit. **When we believe that others have been given more of Jesus, of His grace, or His Spirit, we have fallen from grace. When we see ourselves as having less than what the scriptures teach we are fallen from grace:**

2Co 3:18 But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, **are being transformed into the same image** from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

John 14: 12 "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, **the works that I do he will do also;** and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father.

1Co 3:16 Do you not know that you are the temple of God and **that the Spirit of God dwells in you?**

Ro 8:11 But **if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you,** He who raised Christ from the dead **will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.**

Why are we fallen from Grace? It is ignorance, unbelief, deceitfulness of the enemy, doubt, unworthiness, our pride, bad teaching, having a sin consciousness, living back under the law, lack of understanding, and a lack of revelation in the knowledge of Christ who is in us. **In essence, it is not believing right.**

II Pet. 1: 2 **Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord,**
3 **as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue,**
4 **by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature,** having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

Living Just Naturally is Falling From Grace

The enemy wants us to fall short of God's grace.

Heb 12:15 **looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God;** lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled;

The enemy wants us to think differently than God's Words says to think. The enemy wants us to be distracted and unaware. The enemy wants us to be sin conscious and troubled with guilt and condemnation from the law. Then enemy wants us to take the bait of offenses, judge, and be judged so that we are entangled with bitterness, anger, and unforgiveness. When we are self conscious and examining ourselves and **others we are not seeing Jesus and being transformed in our heart to believe the right things (II Cor. 3:18). When we see Jesus in His grace towards us; He sees us in faith towards Him!**

We are His workmanship created for His good works through us. **When we are busy with our own lives doing our own works we are being kept from His grace. The enemy wants us thinking natural, acting natural, and fearing naturally—when we do we are fallen from grace.**

As long as we see ourselves alone, separated from God's Spirit, and living just as mere men, we are under Satan's dominion. This dominion is the law that comes against our natural man because in our natural man we are sinners—breakers of the law and bound to it.

When saints still act like and believe like sinners we are fallen from grace. This is the meaning of this passage:

Gal. 4: 1 Now I say that the heir, **as long as he is a child**, does not differ at all from a slave, though he is master of all,
2 **but is under guardians and stewards** until the time appointed by the father.

3 Even so we, when **we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world.**

4 But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law,

5 **to redeem those who were under the law**, that we might receive the adoption as sons.

6 And because you are sons, **God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!"**

7 **Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.**

When we live as children we are living under the law and under the elements of the world—we are living natural. Our natural man is the old nature and bound to sin; however, in Christ we are freed from the old man and have newness of life!

Ro 6:4 Therefore **we were buried with Him** through baptism into death, **that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.**

We are made sons and daughters and are now no longer **bound by the elements of this realm**. We were once bound by the very things we were to have dominion over; but Christ has redeemed us and placed us above all things in Him. **We are no longer slaves (fallen from grace) but heirs with Christ in this life!**

Rom. 5: 17 For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, **much more those who receive abundance of**

grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.)

Conclusion

Who among us wants to live our life fallen from grace? We can fall short of God's grace! We do this when we accept less than what Jesus is for our life.

I John 4: 17 Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; **because as He is, so are we in this world.**

Grace is multiplied to us and manifested in our life in proportion to our revelation knowledge of Jesus in our heart. As we know Him we are transformed into the same image by the Spirit of God. This transformation happens by God's will and determination; however, it is subject to our believing. If we see our relationship to the Lord more along the lines of His servant, His slave, His pet, or His employee, we are going to limit who we are with Jesus. If we see our relationship to the Lord more in line with His son and daughter, His bride, His body, His temple, and joined as One with Him we are living to full grace.

We know that our heart is growing the good seed of the truth **when we are convinced.** When we are convinced the truth takes hold. The enemy wants us in doubt which is to not know God's will in these matters. As long as we don't embrace **it we won't assert it. If we don't assert it, it remains undone, unfulfilled, and grace is thwarted.**

When we believe right and act upon it we are asserting it into our lives; God's Spirit is activated and empowered and grace manifests. When we cooperate, accept, and embrace the truth it is God's work to bring it to pass. When we speak in His name the Spirit makes it so. When we believe right the transformation occurs by the Spirit. When we practice and develop our **Jesus consciousness in our life,** the Spirit brings to light the righteousness of Christ in us.

Our part is our heart. When we are convinced and imagine through meditation the things freely given us in Christ we'll begin to see differently. Our confidence will grow and our actions will agree. Our faith in God's grace will provoke us to assert the truth into our life and those around us. This is the work of God's word working in us to will and to do as His good pleasure. We are His workmanship created to be Jesus in this world (John 12:24). We have the Spirit of Christ in all His fullness in us; therefore, act upon it by faith (John 1:16). **When we do we are rising from the dead of the natural realm to operate in the free gift of righteousness in His supernatural grace (Rom. 6:5).** Therefore, rise in the name of Jesus; have faith in God and in His Word in us. Live to the new life, think, speak, and act as sons and daughters walking fully in His grace. Amen.

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