



ACCM

Bible Study: Thursday, August 23rd, 2018. **TOPIC: THE BACKSLIDDEN CHRISTIAN Part 1**

Texts: Jer 3:6-11.

In the Christian race, it is not uncommon to see people who at one time were very vibrant for God. At some point something comes their way that makes them begin to lose their love for God. At this point they either give one excuse or they say nothing. However, you can see vividly that their love for God has declined. If not checked, they go completely backwards in their love for God and on a very drastic situation some of them become fall into apostasy. In this study we are going to talk about Backsliding, what it means, what leads to it and the state of a backslidden believer and finally how to return to God. The word Backsliding does not exist in the New Testament of the KJV. It shows up about 13 times in the Old Testament and it simply means to turn away or become a heathen, rebellious, withdraw etc.

What is backsliding: Matt 24:12, Rev 2:1-7, 8-11, 19-22, 3:1-3, 14-17. Of all the churches mentioned in Revelations which one will you consider as the backslidden church?

Can a Christian backslide? II Peter 2:20-22, Heb 6:4-6, Luke 8:13, Heb 3:12, Num 15:30.

Part II

INTRODUCTION: Two weeks ago, we defined backsliding as moving away from the the Lord concluded using the Churches in Revelation that moving away from your first love in any form is backsliding. From that we said with the exception of the persecuted church, all the other churches in Revelation were going through a period of backsliding and if not checked the results will not be good. We also said that the doctrine of eternal security is a deceit and that a Christian can backslide and suffer the fate of those who have not

repented. Today, we will continue from there as we examine the same topic the "Backslidden Christian"

What is the difference between a Non-Christian and a Backslidden Christian? Rom. 10:10, Heb. 6:4-6

Who is not a backslider?

1. The non-Christian is not a backslider
2. The church goer is not a backslider
3. If you have never received and confessed Christ as your Lord and Savior, you cannot be a backslider

What leads to backsliding or what are the common signs of backsliding?

1. Disobedience to God's word: Matt 7:26-27, II Tim 4:3-4
2. Lukewarmness: Rev 3:15-16,
3. Filled with their own ways, desires and lacks good conscience: Prov 14:14, Ezekiel 14:3-4, 7-8, I Tim 6:9, I 19-20.
4. Lose focus of heaven. Mal 3:14.
5. Quit when the going is tough: Matt 13:20-21
6. Worldly pleasures: Heb 11:14-15, Matt 13:22, I John 2:15-17
7. Obstinate- Refusing to take corrections Prov 14:9, 15:10, Eph 4:18-19, Isaiah 1:5, Prov 29:1
8. Bitterness Heb 12:15
9. Idleness Luke 19:13
10. Not grounded in the word of God. II Tim 4:3-4
11. Lack of fervency: Rev 2:4
12. Keeping the wrong company: I Cor 15:33, 5:6, James 4:4.
13. Evil philosophies: Col 2:8

Examining the church of today considering the above points, could you say the church is going through a stage of backsliding? Support your position.

Can religion or can playing religion aid backsliding? Gal 3:3, Acts 5:1-5,

Conclusion: All these things which we mentioned, and others could happen to any believer if he or she is not careful. I Cor 10:12 says *So let even the most confident believers remember their examples and be very careful not to fall as some of them did.* Since we have therefore seen that it is possible for someone who was very zealous for the Lord to fall into a backslidden state, we all then must be very careful lest we fall in. It is even easier in our days to fall into this state without realising it.

HOW DOES GOD VIEW BACKSLIDERS?