

Chapter 1 : Fallen from Grace: What the Bible Says About Fallen Angels

Question: "What does it mean to 'fall from grace' (Galatians)?" Answer: Galatians and its reference to falling from grace is one of those "warning passages" pointed to by those who reject the doctrine of the eternal security of the believer. But because of the biblical doctrine of the.

And yet, some have. How did all of this happen? And yet, we have to affirm that angels have free will. In the beginning, the angels were created to be in Heaven with God, praising Him, and doing His bidding. They were made to glorify Him, as were humans, but humans were made to dwell on the earth – not angels. Scripture says that these angels are fallen angels because they left Heaven. Where are these angels now? In Hell, according to Scripture: These fallen angels are now in Hell, awaiting their eternal judgment that will consign them to Hell for all eternity. Of course, the leader of the fallen angels, Satan himself, gets to appear before the angels as they meet in Heaven despite the fall from Heaven. We find this tidbit of detail out in the Book of Job: Assembling with the angels? As the apostle Paul speaks of him: For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. He was created as an angel like, all other angels, but defected and took other angels with him. How did this abandonment of their proper domain start? This is where we need to know about The Great Rebellion in Heaven. Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, 8 but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer. Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time. This is as much information on The Great Rebellion or the Satanic Rebellion that we have recorded in the pages of Scripture, but this is enough to inform us that the Devil plotted against God, his Maker, and that he and the angels that followed him lost the battle. We know that a third of the heavenly angelic host followed him because of the earlier verses in Revelation 12, verses Now a great sign appeared in heaven: And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it was born. And her Child was caught up to God and His throne. Israel is currently in the wilderness, scattered among the nations, though God is bringing back Jews into their land even as I write this sentence. And Satan has been terrorizing humans ever since his fall from Heaven: Jesus met a lot of demon possession during His ministry, and even the demons knew who Jesus was! The sons of God is a biblical reference that confirms the angels in other places, too: Tell Me, if you have understanding. Or who stretched the line upon it? Or who laid its cornerstone, 7 When the morning stars sang together, And all the sons of God shouted for joy? And he took one of the stones of that place and put it at his head, and he lay down in that place to sleep. This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven! This is a good starting ground to answer the question of how many angels exist approximately, and how many would one-third comprise. So, when you factor in that Jesus mentions twelve legions of angels, you can figure out a number by taking the number of legion soldiers and multiply it by This is the only place in Scripture where we read of so many angels, but it tells us that there are more than 81, angels in Heaven. And keep in mind, this is 81, angels of the total – there were one-third of the total angels that rebelled against God and was expelled from Heaven. How Many Angels Followed Satan? That is, there were at least 41, rebellious angels in The Great Rebellion who followed after Satan and warred against God and His angels. Still, though, we can say that there are at least , angels that are in existence, which tells us that there are tons and tons of angels that exist. The one-third of the angelic hosts could be a much larger number than 40, Does his sister ever marry? We are told nothing more than that the Holy Spirit passes by Mary and she becomes pregnant, then bears Jesus after 9 months. Nothing more are we told. The Lucifer Reference in Isaiah 14 Within the Christian church, there is a great discussion regarding Satan and references to him in the Bible. How you are cut down to the ground, You who weakened the nations! The brood of evildoers shall never be named. First, in Isaiah I find that hard to believe. It seems plausible when you consider that Satan used the idea of power and Godhood to move Adam and Eve to rebel against God: Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. First, the king has a throne Isaiah In the final analysis, then, the writer may have referenced Satan in the beginning, and Isaiah However, the majority of the passage refers to an evil king who was haughty and was

brought down in his pride. His corpse, his body, would be trampled underfoot " which is what happens when someone is killed in dishonor. The old Greek gods and goddesses, Achilles as an example, trampled under Hektor when victorious. Trampling underfoot was a sign of honor for the one who trampled, dishonor for the victim being trampled. The chief of the fallen angels is one person, the Babylonian King another. And yet, the Babylonian King may act under the same haughtiness that brought Satan low, but they are two different people. This can best be explained by the following: I am often called Teresa, Jr. How do we reconcile these two passages? Well, we know that Hell is created for the Devil and his angels: In the end, Satan and the fallen angels were the target ones for whom Hell was created. Hell was created as a final punishment for the leaders of The Great Rebellion in Heaven, but the Lord allows others to go there as well in the nations He judges because of choice, free will, the God-given responsibility of man to choose his eternal destination, whether Heaven or Hell. And it is Hell, where Satan and the fallen angels, the one-third who rebelled with him, will go at the end of all things. Fallen Angels and the Rise of the Giants The fallen angels fall from Heaven onto the earth or some end up being imprisoned in Hell until the end, it is believed. By Genesis 6, though, the created order is now being undermined. Instead of humans and humans having sexual relations, the fallen angels have now decided to go in and be sexually active with human women: Now it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born to them, 2 that the sons of God saw the daughters of men, that they were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose. Those were the mighty men who were of old, men of renown. That is, the sons of God are angels and the daughters of men are human women. The end of Genesis 6: They weigh a ton, have big arms and broad bodies, and are so heavy that they could likely kill a creature if they set on a person. These fallen angels went in to human women and bore them children that we call giants. Their unusual height, size, and body weight are all signs that they were not conceived by human beings strictly. However, when you think of giants like Goliath, these children, produced by fallen angels and human women, are extremely tall. Goliath was 9 feet, 9 inches tall. Genesis 6 tells us that giants were on the earth in those days. Some of the giants mentioned in Scripture are the people of Anakim Numbers Sippai, Lahmi the brother of Goliath, and a man with 24 fingers and toes 1 Chronicles Fallen Angels and Demons Fallen angels settled on earth, took human wives, and conceived children by human women, but they also plagued humanity by possessing human beings. Fallen angels are known to many as demons, and the case can be made that Satan too, is a demon. Demons are often thought to have arrived to earth in the New Testament, but it appears that even Israel had some encounter with demons in the Old Testament. The Lord told priests that they were to offer up sacrifices to the Lord, not to the demons Israel had been giving their offerings to: This shall be a statute forever for them throughout their generations. He appointed priests for the demons. No wonder he eliminated the priests that were already in place! Demon possession is not a good thing for, if it was, why would Jesus remove demon possession from human bodies? What the Fall did in bringing curses and sickness, Jesus came to undo. And He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick, 17 that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: His authority over unclean spirits is the fulfillment of Isaiah Have You come here to torment us before the time? And suddenly the whole herd of swine ran violently down the steep place into the sea, and perished in the water. And when they saw Him, they begged Him to depart from their region. In verse 29, they cry out to Jesus, the demons evidencing through the voice of humans who He is: You come here to torment us before the time? Remember that earlier, we said that Hell was designed for the Devil and his fallen angels Matthew

Chapter 2 : Fall from grace | Define Fall from grace at calendrierdelascience.com

To fall from grace is an idiom referring to a loss of status, respect, or prestige.. Fall from grace may also refer to. Fall of man, Christian term used to describe the transition of the first man and woman from a state of innocent obedience to God to a state of guilty disobedience.

Jul 29, Aestas Book Blog rated it really liked it 4. A rock-star romance with a paranormal twist! I totally loved this book!! The sexual tension, the banter, the twists, the one-liners, the characters - everything about this book was awesome! But Grace has a secret. Her angel she was once torn away from. I went into this book blind. Despite how he seemed on the surface, there was so much depth to his character which came out in little bits an pieces as the book went on. I fell reeally hard for him. He was like a delicious blend of Travis and Kellan mixed in with a bit of a tortured soul. I want you to tell me what I need to do to be a good enough man for you. Then a devilish smile crept across his face, "Who said I wanted to sleep with you? Although, I have to admit. My heart was racing. And the banter was brilliant - the digs, the ribs, the teasing For the first half of the book just reads like a regular contemporary romance but while dropping little hints and clues along the way leaving you wondering and guessing and then when it hits and the twist is revealed, I swear it gave me chills. I loved the concept! The music aspect of this book was phenomenal - the scenes where they played, both on and off stage, gave me shivers. Both Grace and Shane play guitar and sing and seeing them in their music element just magnified the UST between them to pretty epic proportions! So yes, they were there, but I easily overlooked them and kept reading. The sexual tension is so steamy that that alone had me fanning myself!! I will try my best to be the man that you need me to be.

Chapter 3 : Galatians - Fallen from Grace : Christian Courier

FALLEN FROM GRACE by Laura Leone was a Rita Award finalist for Best Contemporary Romance. It's the story of a woman, Sara, who befriends a younger man who conceals painful secrets and a double life behind his gentle charm and good looks.

And they just got together," Leidlein said. And it just took off. Because what started so innocently on campus, with idealistic love and religious devotion, ended in a tangled web of secrets, deception and eventually He frequently led intense prayer sessions where they tried to heal the sick and ward off evil spirits. We thought that was wonderful, you know, that she had friends that she could share with in that way, share that faith with. Someone that you could trust. He was able to explain it in a way that made sense to us," said Herrington. And Tyler Deaton definitely made sense to Bethany, who believed she had found the man she had always dreamed of. For a long time he tried to repress -- and even tried to change -- his sexuality. He decided to focus on mission work, and he went to Kansas City to attend a national convention put on by a church called the International House of Prayer -- known by the acronym IHOP. I loved that and so I wanted to go there. Eventually settling in the two houses separated by gender, they called themselves "The Community. They had odd jobs and pooled their money. Bethany went back to school and became a nurse. To be radical," said Herrington. Herrington says Deaton told members what to wear, when to eat and even controlled the romantic relationships among their group. So they took her bedroom door away," said Herrington. Sometimes they would leave notes under the door, maybe once or twice a month," Herrington said. He told Roberts this went on for eight months. Asked why he stayed, Herrington replied, "I really thought that we had some kind of purpose together. They were my friends. After a brief engagement, Bethany and Tyler tied the knot in August. We were observers to this who almost you know messianic type union taking place," said Leidlein. And that now that she was married to Tyler she was completely gone," she said. That was her waving goodbye to everybody," Carol Leidlein said of the picture. Bethany and her new husband, Tyler Deaton, were heading off on a two-week honeymoon in August of So, we trusted that she knew But when the couple landed in Costa Rica for their honeymoon, she was in for a rude surprise. Bethany and I never had sex," he said. Though the couple believed Deaton was "cured" of his homosexual feelings by prayer, the reality was much different. Group member Boze Herrington saw signs that something peculiar was going on between Deaton and other male group members even before the wedding. That would not be accurate," he replied. Yeah, that happened," Deaton admitted. Asked how the lack of intimacy affected her self-esteem, Deaton told Roberts, "Very negatively. What she did was way worse," Deaton said. And she internalized it. And I was too freaking stupid and ignorant to recognize what was going on. It was always about her. And she just had this deep almost sort of self-hatred at that point. We had no idea. She had expressed thoughts of suicide and Deaton says she threatened to drink windshield washer fluid. He thought it was all an act. I thought there was no way someone could really just start believing this stuff and have like -- a snap like that," he explained. What am I gonna do? It was pulled in and facing -- towards the tree line there," she pointed out. It was Bethany Deaton. Her head was covered by a loose plastic bag and there was an empty bottle of over-the-counter sleeping medication near her body. Also in the car was a goodbye note. It appeared to be a suicide, but something was off. And it kind of made the hair on the back of my neck stand up," said Cole. In Dallas, friends sat down with Carol and Eric Leidlein to break the news. As hundreds of people packed the family church to mourn her loss, Leidlein received a shocking phone call from investigators. He had killed her. And she was found with her eyes open, which they thought was unusual for someone who had apparently overdosed. And -- most people when they -- overdose with -- some type of sleeping medication, they just -- their body just starts to slow down and shuts down," Kenney explained. And so why an over-the-counter drug? They were in the process of being written," Cole said. But what had led him to come forward? The reason he killed Bethany? Because her husband, Tyler Deaton, had told him to. And he was in handcuffs. But the confession provided investigators with a motive. Moore told police that for months, he and other male roommates had been drugging Bethany with the anti-psychotic drug Seroquel and sexually assaulting her. Moore said that before Bethany could report the

abuse, Deaton told him to kill her, because he knew he had it in him to do it. And it drives me crazy. He says Moore has mental health issues, and the confession was one in a series of psychotic episodes, spurred on by pressure from church leaders. IHOP refused to talk to "48 Hours" about the case. But they severed all connections with Tyler and in a statement they publicly denounced his "alleged secretive, perverse, cultic practices. Everybody left me in a day. And then I lost all my friends. I lost the church that I was part of. Despite the allegations against Tyler Deaton, only Micah Moore was arrested -- because he had confessed. And -- up to that point, we thought that -- we were -- we got that brass ring on the merry-go-round, so to speak. Micah Moore, the man who put everything together for police, was about to tear it all apart. Did you order Micah to kill your wife? Of course not," he emphatically replied. Micah is easily manipulatable. Our understanding -- is that Let me just be clear. You did not manipulate men into having sex with you? That would not be accurate. There was hands in places -- and there was being -- there was being horizontal, so like being on a bed at the same time and There was -- oral sex happened twice. She said Moore is recanting his entire confession. The confession, she said, was the result of an exorcism -- performed by the leaders of the International House of Prayer. All of that, Deaton says, points towards something other than murder. But do I feel like I have really real responsibility for what happened? Yeah, I do," he admitted. And she -- she -- she got a gay one. Is there enough evidence to take this case to trial or should the young man who confessed to murder walk free? Penny Cole and Col. Ben Kenney have been trying to crack this case. A photo of Bethany Deaton investigators keep close Leidlein Family "We have one of the photographs of -- Bethany, taken obviously at a happier time in her life. And -- I keep -- that Just two weeks before his trial was to begin, prosecutors quietly issued a statement: They chose to drop the charges For Tyler Deaton, the news was overwhelming. Like, I would have thought it would have just been this, like [sighs]. But I was also angry that it was so clear and that it had gone on so long.

Chapter 4 : Fall from Grace () - IMDb

2. *Fig. to do something wrong and get in trouble with someone other than God. I hear that Ted lost the Wilson contract and has fallen from grace with the boss. The accounting firm has fallen from grace and the board is looking for a new one.*

Can Someone Fall From Grace? Introduction Rooted in the doctrines of Calvinism , the idea that "once one is saved, then he is always saved", is often used to comfort Christians and give them confidence towards their final salvation. However, while the Bible does provide a basis for confidence, it does not teach that Christians cannot fall from grace. Moreover, the teachings of Jesus and His apostles actually warn Christians to beware the danger of falling away. The Bible even contains examples of people who did fall away. Warnings Against the Possibility of Apostasy Several passages in the Scripture warn against the possibility and danger of one becoming an apostate, or falling away. These passages speak clearly of not only the possibility, but the looming danger of falling away. Please read the following passages: For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward, how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation? Therefore, let him who thinks he stands, take heed lest he fall. Therefore, the very existence of these warnings proves that Christians can fall from grace. But, this point is made even clearer when we investigate examples of Christians who struggled against falling away, and some who actually did. Examples of Apostasy The most powerful example of a Christian struggling to remain faithful is the example of the apostle Paul. Considered by many to be one of the strongest and most active apostles, Paul not only felt the danger of becoming apostate, but he also wrote about it to help warn those who were over-confident: Shortly after writing this statement, Paul warned the Corinthians with the statement, "Let him who thinks he stands, take heed lest he fall. The Christians at Galatia had succumbed to a false doctrine that was rampant during the early New Testament era. This doctrine involved binding parts of the obsolete Old Testament, such as circumcision. Consequently, the apostle Paul cautioned the Christians in Galatia that they had actually fallen away by accepting this false doctrine. Besides this example, the Scriptures contain other cases of individuals who were overcome by sin and no longer in fellowship with God. The following statement was issued by the apostle Peter to a new convert, Simon, who had just recently sinned: For I see that you are poisoned by bitterness and bound by iniquity. Having faith and a good conscience, which some have rejected, concerning the faith have suffered shipwreck, of whom are Hymaenaeus and Alexander, whom I delivered to Satan that they may learn not to blaspheme. From these cases, we can understand that Christians can and do indeed sin so that they may fall away, and no longer be in relationship with God. How severe is this separation? From the passage in Galatians 5: This is a terrible condition because only those who are "in Christ" will be saved Galatians 3: Therefore, one can and will forfeit salvation by practicing sin or by adopting false doctrines. The Good News While the Bible does teach that we can fall from grace, it does not teach that this condition must be permanent. The entire book of Galatians is evidence to this fact. The book was written to encourage and call to repentance those who had become "estranged from Christ". So, what are we to do if we find ourselves in this condition? The Bible teaches a clear course of action for any and every sin: If we will but simply confess and repent of our sins through prayer, then God will forgive us. However, this process of repentance towards forgiveness should not be confused with the initial conversion process. In each of these cases, the people given the above instructions were already Christians. The Bible teaches a different plan for salvation for becoming a Christian and receiving the initial forgiveness of sins. Conclusion Although the idea of "once saved, always saved" provides comfort and confidence in our ultimate salvation, it is an empty hope that deceives its believers into a false sense of security. As with any question or teaching, we must be sure to examine the Scriptures to see if it is true Acts When we do turn to the Bible, we learn of numerous warnings against over-confidence, and to take caution against falling from the faith. Besides this, we see examples of great Christians, like Paul, who struggled to remain faithful; moreover, we sorrowfully read of Christians who failed in this struggle. Fortunately, God offers a means of being forgiven when we do stumble. He has promised to forgive us if we through prayer, repent and confess our sins to Him. Sin, both before and after our

conversion, separates us from God.

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Can Christians Fall From Grace? Bible study on salvation, grace, and apostasy. The quick answer to this question is given by Paul, who says, "You have been severed from Christ, you who are seeking to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace" Gal. The Bible plainly tells us that Christians can fall from grace. But this doctrine is widely disputed in religion today. We must beware, lest we have an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God Heb. For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise" Heb. Christians Can Stray From the Truth and Lose Their Souls James cautions us, saying, "My brethren, if any among you strays from the truth and one turns him back, let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins" Jas. There are some important points to notice from James 5: Christians can stray from the truth. A Christian who strays from the truth is a sinner. His soul is lost. If he turns from his sin, he will be saved from death. Some People Strayed from the Faith in the First Century Paul tells us that some people had "gone astray from the faith" in the first century 1 Tim. The expression "gone astray from the faith" means that they were no longer obedient to the faith, and thus lost in their sins Rom. Paul also tells us why some people depart from the faith: They give heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, speaking lies in hypocrisy, forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from foods 1 Tim. They love money 1 Tim. We are not immune from sin in the twenty-first century. We must be careful not to depart from the faith, turning from God to entertain the passing pleasures of sin. If the apostle Paul could be lost, every Christian can be lost. Paul used himself as an example to encourage the brethren in Corinth to work hard and be diligent in their service to God, saying, "but I discipline my body and make it my slave, so that, after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified" 1 Cor. Therefore he says, later in the epistle, "I affirm, brethren, by the boasting in you which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily" 1 Cor. Rather, we should recommit our lives to God, every day. Be sure you are humbly obeying God, knowing that you can turn from the truth and lose your soul. Peter says it like this, "Therefore, brethren, be all the more diligent to make certain about His calling and choosing you; for as long as you practice these things, you will never stumble; for in this way the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be abundantly supplied to you" 2 Pet. Be sure to work out your own salvation with fear and trembling Phil.

Chapter 6 : Fallen From Grace â€™” By David J. Stewart

I absolutely LOVED the amount of angst in Fall From Grace. I'm so happy to read about a female lead that is strong, witty, funny, and intelligent. I'm so happy to read about a female lead that is strong, witty, funny, and intelligent.

This is an excellent question and one that troubles many people. I will try to answer it adequately. Throughout the book of Galatians, Paul is dealing with a heresy that has taken the churches of Galatia by storm. In chapter one, he mourns that that they have left the true gospel for "another gospel; Which is not another" Galatians 1: It is another gospel because it has left the concept of salvation by grace alone. Now man must do some works too. It is "not another" because it still speaks of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. It has perverted the gospel by adding to the requirements of the gospel. In chapter three, Paul asked the Galatians, "Are ye so foolish? They trusted in the Lord by faith in Christ and received the spiritual new birth. Now they are trying to complete their salvation by works like circumcision see Galatians 5: We know that there were Jews that were teaching that such works were necessary for salvation in the early church. Consider these verses from the time of the council held in Jerusalem. And certain men which came down from Judaea taught the brethren, and said, Except ye be circumcised after the manner of Moses, ye cannot be saved. But there rose up certain of the sect of the Pharisees which believed, saying, That it was needful to circumcise them, and to command them to keep the law of Moses. Some of these false teachers had come to Galatia and had gained many converts. This is what Paul is dealing with in the book of Galatia. Now, let us look at the verse in question again: Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace. Paul is saying that if anyone is trying to be justified saved by obeying the law, then they have fallen from the concept of salvation by the grace of God. No one can be saved by Christ and by circumcision at the same time. To add anything to the gospel makes it another gospel. Christ is become of no effect to anyone who trusts in Christ and circumcision. Or, we might say, Christ and baptism. Anything added to Jesus Christ means that we are not fully trusting in Him and shows that we are fallen from grace. To fall from the concept of grace means that someone leaves the concept of salvation by grace alone. It keeps people from getting saved. Those who supposedly trusted in Christ but then added the works of the law were either not saved in the first place or they will be corrected by God until they get it right. To fall from grace is to leave the concept of salvation by grace alone; it is not referring to the loss of salvation itself.

Chapter 7 : Fall from Grace (TV Movie) - IMDb

Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace. Paul is saying that if anyone is trying to be justified (saved) by obeying the law, then they have fallen from the concept of salvation by the grace of God.

For we through the Spirit eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness by faith. Here is the gospel: But it was not always this simple to me. A young version of me learned that approval, appreciation, acceptance and good will were the rewards of things I did to earn them. I was a sensitive child in every way, tender in conscience, feeling, heart, and spirit. Fear of death and hell chased after me, but as long as I obeyed God I had nothing to be afraid of, for if I was holy and obedient God would accept me. Soon I found deep solace in Scripture and devotion to God. I was the firstborn in a large family. We were poor, but we trusted God to meet our needs and He did, in sometimes miraculous ways. Through miracles we never went hungry for food, but I was absolutely starving for love. I received the love I craved when I was an obedient, godly, and helpful daughter. My acts of service, my work, my chores and helping out justified my existence and made my life matter to others. This made me feel like I had purpose, was useful, approved by God, and worthy of taking up space. Depression set in, but no one knew why. So did complete and utter exhaustion. I was the second mother, the helper. And because I longed for acceptance, belonging and love, and also knew that I had to please God, and because I did not want to be rejected eternally, I became a rigid perfectionist. With the years came hormones, emotions, and desperation. As the oldest I was constantly reminded that I was responsible for the actions and hearts of my younger siblings, because they were watching me, and so was the world. My depression grew worse. I was a huge disappointment— from the fact that I was gaining weight, to the fact that I had ungodly dreams for my adult life I liked to sew, and wanted to become a fashion designer, but fashion is worldly, from the fact that I got impatient with my younger siblings, was a terrible example of holiness to them, was tired all the time, argued with my mom, and so on. So I doubled my efforts. Helping out became the only way I knew how to show how sorry I was for causing stress to my parents and how much I loved them. I was constantly exhausted but felt guilty for feeling tired, because if I was tired, how much more so must be my mother! My part was to be humble and obedient, to learn how to sacrifice and die to my flesh Exhaustion became an offering. Suffering refined me and made me more like Christ. I wanted this so much, and this is what it meant to take up my cross daily and die to myself. Over time my family withdrew more and more from the world and even other Christians. Our doctrine became more and more rigid, gaining momentum through fear-based, guilt-driven theology that put heavy emphasis on behavior, actions, lifestyle, sin and holiness. What I knew of grace was that I, as a sinful child, was just as wicked as a child molester or murderer, and grace was the only reason I was not in hell. But I could be, if I fell away. If I became worldly. And yet I learned that I could never be holy enough, because of my sinful human nature. So my life— at twelve, thirteen, fourteen, fifteen— became ravaged within this polarity: I fell asleep thinking about it. I sank into deep despair when I failed. I wished I could die constantly So instead, for years, I begged forgiveness for my sins and for being a terrible witness for God and a terrible daughter and sister in my family. I wrote pages and pages of confessions, apologies, and tearstained prayers in my journal. The threat of hell loomed over me as constant and intimate as breathing. Not always through direct reminding by anyone else, however. I was raised to obey God, regardless of the cost. To seek, listen, and obey, even when it meant going against the flow, especially when it required making incredibly difficult choices which might garner condemnation, accusations, or rejection from others. If the world hated Jesus, of course it would hate us too. This conviction led to an unusual way of life: I became vigorously judgmental, my eyes straining and searching everything for a shred of evil or deception. Daily we judged whatever came along: This judgment was seen as righteous judgment, holy conviction, and the discernment of a family set apart, one who knew the truth, lived according to the Bible and hoped to convict others to feel guilty, repent from their sin, learn the truth, and live in holiness. So all throughout my childhood, and even into my adult life, the dread of the upcoming antichrist, mark of the beast, and the torments described in Revelation weighed on my heart with unbearable heaviness. And thus

continued years and years. The hunger for love manifests in many ways. And it takes its toll. I realize now that it dwelt in me as a form of disbelief I did not believe I was lovable as-is. Who would love this? I grew up with strong faith, yet even my faith could not compete with the tenderness of a young girl aching to be loved. A young girl who felt faceless and unmemorable in a sea of others—just one of the kids, one anonymous face in a crowd, one soul in a million souls. How could I be loved when there are so many other children? So many other women? So many trillions of people throughout history that God made? How could there be enough love to go around? And yet I did not want to be loved at the expense of others—I did not want others to be any less loved. Unconsciously I told myself, then I will sacrifice. I will be less-loved so that others can be loved. I will give love. I will love and love and love. And I loved so much my heart broke. I became codependent and loved intensely the way I wanted to be loved, yet it was not healthy or pure. I showed it through service, devotion, gifts, words, presence—to anyone who would have me. Not through promiscuity—I was still afraid of hell and the displeasure of God—but through poor choices in friendships, horrible boundaries and toxic relationships. I deeply wanted to prove my love—and underneath it, not even really known to me—my own lovability. I remember one evening in January, years ago, standing on my balcony alone with tears on my face. The stars glimmered sweet and the wind whispered soft poems to my skin. I looked at the stars and suddenly realized that I was looking at them with my own eyes for no other reason than so that I could see them. In that moment, all this beauty was for me. I remember touching my eyes and in those moments, illumination burst through my entire being. I had no right to good things or beauty. If I had anything good, it was mine to share with others and to sacrifice. Nothing felt sacred in the sense that it was private, with protective boundaries, worthy of holding close and treasuring and keeping. And yet I stood looking at the stars, with my very own eyes, eyes that were given to me for my own benefit and pleasure. And I got to keep them. I had something beautiful to keep for my very own. And suddenly I realized: It felt like a thrilling secret. This was the first moment I started to understand. But a holy doubt began to tremble with hope in my heart. Maybe I am loved Could I be loved I have eyes just because I was born. And these eyes are the sweetest gift. Imagine going through life without eyes! And with these eyes I can see stars and words and flowers and the face of my beloved husband and the smiles of my nephews and so much indescribable beauty. And the God who made me and gave me this good gift of eyes—I have my very own—He gave them to me before I even earned them. And look at how good this gift is. I could even be bad, evil and wicked This is how I received my first tender glimpse of grace. And this is how I came to believe it. Still more years passed before that seed bore fruit, but as the Lord began to heal my heart, He healed my unbelief, too.

Chapter 8 : Can Someone Fall From Grace?

Galatians - Fallen from Grace By Wayne Jackson Those who have been influenced by the dogma of John Calvin believe that a child of God can never apostatize to the point of being lost. Dr. Charles Stanley, in his book Eternal Securityâ€”Can You Be Sure?, devotes an entire chapter to Galatians

The Bible reveals that one can fall from grace. No one ever wants that to happen! So how can we avoid falling from grace and losing one of the greatest gifts God has generously given us? Grace is the unmerited, loving favor and graciousness of our Creator. As a free gift, God bestows His grace upon us. How does He do that? Grace cannot be earned. And no one wants to lose that blessing. For instance, if bitterness, which is actually a state of anger and hatred, is not repented of, one could become defiled by that wrong attitude or spirit and fall short of the grace of God. Likewise, we could be like Esau who sold out his future for the pleasures of the present. Therefore, we need to continue to pursue peace with all people and maintain holiness. Another reason for falling from grace The apostle Paul noted the following in Galatians 5: Basically, the gentile Galatian Christians were being influenced by Jews who were wrongly teaching that they needed to be circumcised in the flesh. The context reveals this background: Some Jews believed that circumcision was necessary to be saved. The Church was divided over this teaching, and it was brought to a conclusion as recorded by Luke in Acts Since God had given His Holy Spirit to the gentiles while they were uncircumcised, it was determined that salvation was not dependent upon circumcision. So, Paul was saying that if some were focusing on circumcision to make themselves right with God instead of on Jesus Christ and His sacrifice, then they would be making the sacrifice of Christ meaningless. The conclusion of the matter: Do not reject what Christ did for us. Paul summarizes this discussion in verses 6 and For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: He was the apostle to the gentiles and was mightily used by God, yet he realized the potential for losing the condition of grace given to him from God. He explained this using the analogy of an athlete competing for a prize. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown. Therefore I run thus: Paul realized that he had to continue staying close to God, being humble and being obedient to God: Having the grace of God is a wonderful gift, but if we neglect such a gift by turning away from God and His way of life, we would fall from it see Hebrews 6: But here is the encouraging thing to know: God wants us to continue in His grace, and He will help us to do that. Therefore, we must remain steadfast in holiness. And we must make sure we do not become disqualified by our own undisciplined or disobedient actions. God promises His grace, and we must not fall from it!

Chapter 9 : Can Christians Fall From Grace? Bible study on salvation, grace, and apostasy.

Paul explained that anyone could fall from grace—even he himself could! He was the apostle to the gentiles and was mightily used by God, yet he realized the potential for losing the condition of grace given to him from God.

Behold, I Paul say unto you, that if ye be circumcised, Christ shall profit you nothing. For I testify again to every man that is circumcised, that he is a debtor to do the whole law. Many sincere folks have misinterpreted this Scripture to conclude that a Believer can lose their salvation—this is a false teaching! Only God can save a person because only God can forgive sin. Penance is simply NOT a Bible doctrine. I must go to Jesus and Him alone! Thanks be to God, I did this as a young man and have been saved since that day. No amount of evil or wrong doing can undo what God has done. This does not give us a license to sin, it just means that salvation starts and ends with God. The only thing God requires of us is to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of our sins. Jesus washed my sins away and wrote my name in Heaven! He saved a vile, dirty, rotten sinner from hell-fire! The Believers at Galatia had fallen victim to a false religion. And let me pause right here to say that there are MANY false religions in the world today, right in our own neighborhoods. They are dangerous and must be exposed for who they are—antichrists! They are against Christ! One false religion in particular had preyed upon the church at Galatia. This false religion wanted to merge with the true Believers in order to promote their own false religion. They believed that a man needed to be circumcised in order to be saved. This was known as Judaism the keeping of the ceremonial laws, etc. Amway, life insurance, long distance phone service, etc. I never did help those lazy rascals. Paul heard of the evil which was happening in Galatia and writes this letter of warning to the church. This is true of false religion today as well. These are unsaved people who trust in their good works to get them into Heaven someday—good luck! This takes an honest person. Most people run from the truth at all costs and refuse to face the facts. You can deal with the truth, but a lie cannot be dealt with. The truth is often painful to accept. If you miss Jesus, you will have missed your only bus ride to Heaven. This is all that Paul was saying. Paul speaks strongly in Galatians 3: This only would I learn of you, Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? I find myself quoting this verse often because many people do not want to hear the truth. We must learn to accept the truth, seek the truth and love the truth because God is truth. Paul was starting to wonder if these folks had really been saved in the first place. The Gospel is easy to pervert, simply add something to it and it is corrupted. No good deeds can save us and they absolutely cannot be added to salvation otherwise you will have perverted the truth of the Gospel. Baptismal regeneration perverts the Gospel of Christ. Some people have the false impression that they are saved, but they truly are NOT because of various misunderstandings concerning salvation. Adding or subtracting anything to simple Gospel of Christ is a sure road to Hell. You must simply believe the Gospel, making the decision to trust Christ as Saviour, asking Him to forgive you of all your sins. If you refuse to call upon the name of the Lord, you are fallen from grace you have rejected your only way to salvation. If you have called on the Lord but are also trusting in your good works to get you into Heaven, then you are not truly trusting Christ. Salvation cannot be by works, only by faith. If the Galatians had fallen prey to the false belief that circumcision was necessary for salvation, then it would have revealed beyond a shadow of a doubt that they were NOT saved. I often am concerned myself about the salvation of other professed Believers. Let me tell you, your sins are the big issue my friend. Have your sins been dealt with? Have you turned to Christ in faith, believing that He alone paid for your sins and that He alone can forgive and save you? God the Father is my agent. Anybody can have this insurance. I have no deductible and no hidden costs. Are you insured with the Heavenly Father? If we cannot do good deeds to earn Heaven in the first place, then we cannot do evil deeds to lose it. I became curious one day about the context in which this statement was made. Surely, we ALL deserve to get what we have coming to us—none of us are without sin. However, what is the application in Galatians 6: The people which Paul had previously ministered to in Galatia were about to sow something evil. Paul was warning them that false religion can only lead to confusion and Hell. As I mentioned earlier, Paul was skeptical concerning their salvation. Had they been saved at all? Were they going to follow this false religion? The Apostle Paul certainly had a reason to be very

concerned. Once the tent of the body is no longer fit for use, the spirit returns to God. Ask them if they believe Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Ask them if they believe that Jesus is God Almighty, Who came in the flesh. Ask them if they believe in the virgin birth and the blood atonement of Jesus. Ask them if they believe in the bodily resurrection and the coming physical return of Christ. Ask them if they believe that Jesus is Eternal, without beginning or end He had no Creator. Jesus paid a debt He did not owe, because we owed a debt we could not pay. If you will simply believe upon the Lord Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins, then you will be saved. Be not deceived my friend!!!