

Faith Confronts the Issue of Sin

April 21, 2013

I. If we stumble or fall, faith will cause us to get up and walk again.

1 John 1:7-10 but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin. 8 If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar and His word is not in us.

Rom 5:6-10 For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

A. The power of sin

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God (Rom. 3:23).
There is none righteous, not one (Rom. 3:10; Ps. 14:1, 3; 53:1, 3).
The scripture has shut up all men under sin (Gal. 3:22).
You, being evil (Matt. 7:11; Luke 11:13).
Evil things come from the heart (Matt. 15:18-19).
Though you were slaves of sin (Rom. 6:17).

B. The Lord raises up all who fall

Prov 24:16 For a righteous man falls seven times, and rises again...

Ps 37:23-24 The steps of a man are established by the Lord, And He delights in his way. When he falls, he will not be hurled headlong, because the Lord is the One who holds his hand.
(See also Ps 38:17-18; 94:18; 145:14; Mic 7:8)

C. Peter's illustration

Prediction

Luke 22:31-32 "Simon, Simon, behold, Satan has demanded permission to sift you like wheat; but I have prayed for you, that your faith may not fail; and you, when once you have turned again, strengthen your brothers."

Denial of Peter

Luke 22:60-62 But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about." Immediately, while he was still speaking, a rooster crowed. The Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how He had told him, " Before a rooster crows today, you will deny Me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly.

Restoration of Peter

John 21:15-17 So when they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love Me more than these?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Tend My lambs." He said to him again a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love Me?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, " Shepherd My sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love Me?" Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, "Do you love Me?" And he said to Him, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You." Jesus said to him, " Tend My sheep.

II. God has provision for us in times of temptation

A. Jesus will help me in the midst of my struggles

Heb 2:16-18 For assuredly He does not give help to angels, but He gives help to the descendant of Abraham. Therefore, He had to be made like His brethren in all things, so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. For since He Himself was tempted in that which He has suffered, He is able to come to the aid of those who are tempted.

(See also Heb 13:6; Luke 1:54; Ps 18:6; 20:2; 22:19; 27:9; 33:20; 40:17; 46:1, 5; 63:7; 70:5; 115:9-11; 121:2; 124:8)

Provides a way of escape.

1 Cor 10:12-13 Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed that he does not fall. No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.

Jude 24-25 Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to make you stand in the presence of His glory blameless with great joy, to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion and authority, before all time and now and forever.

Heb 7:25 Therefore He is able also to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

B. He has protection for us

John 10:27-29 "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand. My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand.

2 Pet 2:9 then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from temptation...

2 Tim 4:18 The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed, and will bring me safely to His heavenly kingdom;

2 Thes 3:3 But the Lord is faithful, and He will strengthen and protect you from the evil one.
(See also 2 Cor 1:10; 1 Pet 1:5; Jude 24; Deut 21:10; 1 Sam 10:19; 14:39; Ps 18:48; 33:26-27; 34:6-7, 17, 19; 35:10; 37:40; 41:1-3; 68:20; 91:3; 97:10; 121:5-8; 125:2; 101:3; 139:5-8)

C. He defends us against our enemies:

Rom 7:24 Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death?

Rom 8:1-2 Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.

Isa 54:17 "No weapon that is formed against you will prosper; and every tongue that accuses you in judgment you will condemn.

Isa 54:15 "If anyone fiercely assails you it will not be from Me.
(See also Zech 3:1-5; Rom 8:31-35; Deut 20:1-5; 33:27 Isa 59:19)

III. Faith speaks in the midst of our temptations.

A. Faith speaks

Rom 10:6 the righteousness based on faith speaks

2 Cor 4:13 But having the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, " I BELIEVED, THEREFORE I SPOKE," we also believe, therefore we also speak,

Jos 14:7 Caleb brought back a word of faith that filled his heart to Moses

Jer 5:24 faith people say in their heart, "let us fear the Lord"

B. Mouth says what fills the heart

Mat 12:34 "You brood of vipers, how can you, being evil, speak what is good? For the mouth speaks out of that which fills the heart.

Pr 23:7 as a man thinks within himself, so he is

Luke 6:45 the mouth speaks out of that which fills heart

C. We are to use our authority against the devil

1 John 5:18 We know that no one who is born of God sins; but He who was born of God keeps him, and the evil one does not touch him.

1 John 3:8 The Son of God appeared for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil.

1 John 4:4 You are from God, little children, and have overcome them; because greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world.

Matt 16:18-19 "I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven."

Col 2:15 When He had disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through Him.

Heb 2:14 Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,

2 Thes 3:3 But the Lord is faithful, and He will strengthen and protect you from the evil one.