

# Rise Up And Build

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*"So They said, 'Let us rise up and build,' Then they set their hands to do this good work," Neh. 2:18*

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## Can A Child of God Fall From Grace?

From a tract entitled "A Discussion Which Involves A Subject Pertinent To All Men," Mr. Sam Morris, then a "pastor" of the First Baptist Church in Stanford, Texas said: "We take the position that a Christian's sins do not damn his soul! ....all the sins he may commit from idolatry to murder will not make his soul in any more danger.... The way a man lives has nothing to whatever to do with the salvation of his soul!"

Though few will express it in language so plain, the Calvinistic doctrine regarding "The Perseverance of Saints," in substance, teaches that a child of God can not so sin as to be eternally lost. Is this the doctrine of men, or of God? **What saith the Scriptures?** For your answer, please note the following things a child of God **can** do:

A child of God **can**: (1) Become a "castaway," I Cor. 9:27. (2) Believe "in vain," I Cor. 15:1-2. (3) Become spoiled "through philosophy and vain deceit" (Col. 2:8), (4) Be "moved away from the hope of the gospel," Col. 2:23. (5) "Depart from the faith," I Tim. 4:1. (6) Become "worse than an infidel," I Tim. 5:8. (7) Turn "aside after Satan," I Tim. 5:15. (8) Develop "an evil heart of unbelief," Heb. 3:12. (9) Depart "from the living God," Heb. 3:12. (10) "Come short" of the promise, Heb. 4:1. (11) "Fall after same example of unbelief," Heb. 4:11. (12) Trod "underfoot the Son of God," Heb. 10:29. (13) Count the "blood of the covenant...an unholy thing," Heb. 10:29. (14) Do "despite unto the Spirit of grace," Heb. 10:29. (15) "Draw back unto perdition," Heb. 10:39. (16) Be "beset" by sin, Heb. 12:1. (17) "Fail of the grace of God," Heb. 12:15. (18) Refuse "him that speaketh," Heb. 12:25. (19) Be "carried about with divers and strange doctrines," Heb. 13:9. (20) "Fall into condemnation," Jas. 5:12. (21) "Err from the truth," Jas. 5:19. (22) Deny the Lord, I Pet. 2:1. (23) "Turn from the holy commandment," 2 Peter 2:21. (24) Be "led away with the error of the wicked," 2 Peter 3:17. (25) Turn "the grace of God into lasciviousness," Jude 3. (26) Be spued out of the Lord's mouth, Rev. 3:16.

**Conclusion:** To deny that a child of God can fall from grace is to deny the word of God (cf. Gal. 5:4). If the devil can't "devour" those who refuse to be "sober" and "vigilant" (cf. I Peter 5:8), then surely he must be the biggest fool in the universe — for, you see, he never ceases his diabolical efforts in trying to "devour" God's children!

\*\*\* —B. Witherington