

*“Therefore, brethren, we were comforted over you in all our affliction and distress by your faith.” 1 Thessalonians 3:7 KJV*



Satan watches us all. Our decisions to doubt, deny, or disobey God’s Word are the unbelief which give him license into our lives where he is most delighted to work havoc and blindness to Truth. *“The god of this world (Satan) hath **BLINDED** the minds of them which **BELIEVE NOT.**”* This applies to all unbelief. Disobedience and doubt are the outward manifestations of inward unbelief!

Pleasure seduces us to yield to our lusts; that extra helping, the impulsive remark, or the few extra minutes of sleep, because we watched TV too late, rushing our morning, so we have no time for God or His Word! Backsliding isn’t a reversal; it is a series of one degree turns which eventually go backwards! Our smallest deed affects someone. You know it’s easy to find fault, and you are not alone in that ability. The tiniest flaws in your faith affect others. The faithful do not fall alone! You don’t know who you’ve encouraged with steadfast faith. When we think ourselves strongest, we are most vulnerable. *“Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.”* Overconfidence in your own human abilities is pride; *“pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.”* When believers fall, the world takes devilish pleasure in reporting it, and, while believers have forgiveness upon confession, the damage to some other soul is already inflicted. Many believers are weak in faith, and are comforted by the stronger, more valiant believer. Where would we be if Paul or Peter had not persevered unto death? Think you they had no weaker moments or were spared temptation? The Scripture teems with their remarks concerning their failures and low self-esteem! Paul declared himself *“the chiefest of sinners!”* Peter denied the LORD thrice! It is only in our weakness that God’s strength is perfected if we just believe and obey. Jesus told Paul, *“My Grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness.”* You’ve no idea how much your faith may comfort or your obedience may lift another out of the doldrums of doubt. How many will fall if you fall? Fret not at trials. It is the storms on the mountains that bring flowers to the valleys. Will you be a comfort or a temptation?

If I obey in faithfulness,  
My faith will grow in righteousness,  
Though often fraught with dreadfulness,  
Will lift lost souls from hopelessness. ~CGP

We are not always on a mountaintop or in a storm, but if we maintain our faith through daily prayer, meditation, and obedience, we will steadfastly traverse valleys, climb mountains, and in so doing, blaze a trail to Christ for those who follow us! *“Remember them which have the rule over you (teachers and preachers), who have spoken unto you the Word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation (how they live).”* You are always an example of something for someone. No man is an island. Remember, there is no sacrifice or loss incurred for Christ which He’ll not repay you a hundredfold!

*“And Jesus answered and said, ‘Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my sake, and the Gospel’s, But he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life.’” Mark 10:29-30 KJV*