

“My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers (different) temptations: Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.” James 1:2-4 KJV



It doesn't say, "When ye YIELD," but "When ye FALL." You can walk in mud with the proper footwear and not get muddy. The same applies to faith. Falling into temptation is not the same as yielding to it. Temptations reveal weaknesses. Babies fall out of ignorance, but anyone can trip, stumble, or slip, because of carelessness. Falls are never expected. "Wherefore let him that THINKETH he standeth take heed lest he fall." It isn't the FALLING down, it's the STAYING down. "A just man falleth seven times (completely), and RISETH UP AGAIN: but the wicked shall fall into mischief." The unbeliever likes the staying down; the believer does not. "God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a WAY (His Word) to escape, that ye may be able to bear it. Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist stedfast in the faith." Satan will trip you up. You may stumble at some obstacle like family crises, financial loss, or illness. Your lack of meditation and study will cause you to slip on the slick surface of desire. You can't see slippery in the dark. Each time pressure of falling is applied to our faith it reveals another layer of dross that must be skimmed off from the shimmering molten gold of faith. Gold remains impure unless repeatedly heated to allow the dross, to rise to the surface where it may be easily removed. I once worked as a plumber's assistant when cast iron pipes were still sealed with lead and hemp. Each time I went to the smelting pot, another layer of dross had to be skimmed off the lead. The more faith is tried, the purer it becomes. Falling isn't an end, but a purification of Heaven's Gold, so you may rid yourself of the dross. "Without faith it is impossible to please [God]." Until rid of this body of sin, we must stay alert to places we've already fallen. God may let us fall many times in the same spot until the pain of the fall changes from physical and mental to spiritual. "Godly sorrow worketh (causes) repentance." Repentance is a return to obedience of God's Word. How many times did you touch the hot stove before you didn't? No one forced you not to do it. We repeat sin, because it hasn't caused "Godly sorrow." God will let us disobey that we may "learn not to blaspheme!" How do we resist the devil? "Submit yourselves therefore to God (obey His Word), resist the devil, and he will flee from you." You resist Satan by obeying God. With obedience, there is safety!

When ye fall and cannot stand,
Reach for Master's ready hand,
Forsake the ways that you have planned,
Or you will partner with the damned! ~CGP

"When ye fall," and you will, DON'T GIVE UP, GET UP! "A just man falleth SEVEN times." Seven is the number of completion in Scripture and here it indicates the utter helplessness of the just man. If utterly helpless, I must be rescued, hence the cry of the sinking Apostle, "Lord, Save me!" When you feel utterly lost, obey God, because "without [Christ, we] are nothing! For WHOSOEVER (including believers) shall call upon the name of the LORD SHALL BE SAVED." Have you called? God's Word will show you what to do!

*"Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not."
Jeremiah 33:3 KJV*