Backsliding? Apostacy

Do you really believe in backsliding? Believe it? We practice it!

Go back to old previous ways, falling away from the original goal.

A Moral lapse, to dismiss truth, or relapse into bad ways.

The abandonment or to renounce ones faith. To Recant.

Refusing to continue to follow, obey, or recognize Gods leadership in your life.

Prov 26:11 - As a dog returns to its vomit, so fools repeat their folly.

Matt 12:31 - the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven (calloused, permanent, rejection) if your asking, you haven't committed it!

We are designed to be free moral agents, from birth to death, always choosing.

By nature, we enter into covenant, and divorce ourselves from good and bad relationships. We can forfeit or abandon the benefits and consequences of staying or leaving.

Josh 24:15 - choose this day whom you will serve

Deut 30:19 - I call heaven and earth to record this day against you that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing. Therefore choose

<u>1 Kings 18:21</u> - "How long are you going to sit on the fence? If God is the real God, follow him; if it's Baal, follow him. Make up your minds!" Nobody said a word; nobody made a move.

James 1:5 - a doubtful mind will be as unsettled as a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind; and every decision you then make will be uncertain, as you turn first this way and then that. If you don't ask with faith, don't expect the Lord to give you any solid answer.

One good decision leads to others. One bad decision leads to others, many similar decisions creates a culture.

A decision of core belief, encompasses all other small decisions affected by that belief.

It creates a narrative.

If a detective who investigates jumps to a theory to soon, all the facts point in that direction. And vise versa.

Defining Security and assurance of our relationship and salvation.

John 15:6 If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw *them* into the fire, and they are burned.

Heb 12:14 Pursue peace with all *people*, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord:

Luke 8:13But the ones on the rock *are those* who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, who believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away.

1. Salvation is available to anyone and everyone.

2. Always by faith alone, not by works

3. Any Relationship is an ongoing challenge. One of conflict with temptation, sin, and loyalty with trust.

4. God is always faithful and true. On point, Waiting on us to return.

We are not always faithful and true.

The kingdom of Heaven was promised and covenant to the Jews, who rejected Christ. The inheritance was now given to gentiles.

Matt 21:43 – taken away and given to those who will produce its fruit.

1 Timothy 5:12, 15; Thus they bring judgment on themselves, because they have broken their first pledge... when their sensual desires overcome their dedication to Christ...Some have in fact already turned away to follow Satan.

Hebrews 3:12 – See to it, brothers and sisters, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God.

Heb 6:4–6, It is impossible for those who have once been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly gift, who have shared in the Holy Spirit, ⁵ who have tasted the

goodness of the word of God and the powers of the coming age ⁶ and who have fallen away, to be brought back to repentance.

Heb 10:26–27 If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left, ²⁷ but only a fearful expectation of judgment... How much more severely do you think someone deserves to be punished who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, who has treated as an unholy thing the blood of the covenant that sanctified them, and who has insulted the Spirit of grace?

2 Peter 2:20; after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning.

1 John 5:16 If you see a Christian sinning in a way that does not end in death, you should ask God to forgive him, and God will give him life unless he has sinned that one fatal sin. But there is that one sin which ends in death, and if he has done that, there is no use praying for him.LB

2 Thess 2:3 – (Great apostacy) *that Day will not come* unless the falling away comes first.

Rev 3:5 - He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels

<u>Revelation 22:19</u> says, "And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book"