**Grace Church of the First Born**

**Sunday Oct 26, 2014**

**“A FALL FROM GRACE”**

**Scripture Reading…1 Cor. 10:12…**12 Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.

**Prayer**

**Song…Count your blessings.**

Introduction to message…. Beloved we live in a corrupt and broken society type of world today that Many Christians think that they are standing so tall and righteous before the Lord to the extent that they feel falling from grace is virtually impossible for them.

Some feel that God has blessed them so abundantly that God would never allow them to fall!

But I need to remind some….We need to THINK Again!!!

For the Bible itself reminds us….

Wherefore let him that thinketh (I didn’t say stinketh) he standeth take heed lest he fall. !!!

Lucifer…Fell from Grace…

Ezekiel 28:12-17. 13Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created.14Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire.15Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.16By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire.17Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee.

**God Casts Satan out of Heaven and fell from Grace!!!**

Isaiah 14:12-17 12How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground—mighty though you were against the nations of the world. 13For you said to yourself, “I will ascend to heaven and rule the angels.[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Isaiah%2014&version=TLB#fen-TLB-15547a)] I will take the highest throne. I will preside on the Mount of Assembly far away in the north.\* 14I will climb to the highest heavens and be like the Most High.” 15But instead, you will be brought down to the pit of hell, down to its lowest depths. 16Everyone there will stare at you and ask, “Can this be the one who shook the earth and the kingdoms of the world? 17Can this be the one who destroyed the world and made it into a shambles, who demolished its greatest cities and had no mercy on his prisoners?”

Adam and Eve Fell from Grace…

Genesis 3: 8And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden.9And the Lord God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?10And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.11And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?12And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat.13And the Lord God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.14And the Lord God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life:15And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.16Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.17And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is th ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life;18Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field;19In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.20And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living.21Unto Adam also and to his wife did the Lord God make coats of skins, and clothed them.22And the Lord God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever:23Therefore the Lord God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken.24So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.

Civilization Fell from Grace

Genesis 6:And the Lord said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years.4There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown.5And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.6And it repented the Lord that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart.7And the Lord said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them.

Lot fell from Grace…

Genesis 13..the wrong choice of Lot… 8And Abram said unto Lot, Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee, and between my herdmen and thy herdmen; for we be brethren.9Is not the whole land before thee? separate thyself, I pray thee, from me: if thou wilt take the left hand, then I will go to the right; or if thou depart to the right hand, then I will go to the left.10And Lot lifted up his eyes, and beheld all the plain of Jordan, that it was well watered every where, before the Lord destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, even as the garden of the Lord, like the land of Egypt, as thou comest unto Zoar.11Then Lot chose him all the plain of Jordan; and Lot journeyed east: and they separated themselves the one from the other.

Samson, Nebuchadnezzar, **The Prodigal Son**

Luke 15:11-32 we have story of an example of a father who had two sons…

The younger one asked the father for his portion of the inheritance he felt was due unto him. The father gladly obliged and gave him is due portion. The son took his portion left the security of his position with his father, left the covering he was under, forgot the spiritual blessings he had received under his father’s house, forgot the spiritual meat he was eating and went to a far country and spent all that he had with riotous living. When he found himself in an unfamiliar territory and situation he decided to return back to his father’s house where he once enjoyed blessings galore!

This young man was once so secure but money, adventure, the pleasures of sin for a season, and the ease of life brought him down to his knees!

**Judas Iscariot fell from Grace!!!**

**Luke 22…** 21But, behold, the hand of him that betrayeth me is with me on the table.22And truly the Son of man goeth, as it was determined: but woe unto that man by whom he is betrayed!23And they began to enquire among themselves, which of them it was that should do this thing.

Today I say to all **count your blessings** name them one by one and it will surprise you what the Lord has done!!

But again I remind everyone….

Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.

I always believe that a timely word can save someone from falling from grace!

This is why when I received this message I was overwhelmed by it because many Christians have fallen from grace, Listen, not because of their own intent but because of the weakness of their minds to recognize when the devil is at work.

Know this that the work of the devil is not to prevent you from continuing to follow Christ, but to keep you from where God is about to bring you and I came here to tell someone that he comes to steal kill and destroy if it were possible even the very elect of God can fall from grace!!

I don’t know who this message is for but I pray everyone pay close attention…..and give heed to the Spirit of God today!

Paul wrote to the church at Corinth to remind them of the plight of Israel and How God Blessed them abundantly but they fell from grace!

Israel fell from Grace!!!!

1. **EXAMPLES OF ISRAEL'S APOSTASY (1-14)** 10 Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea;2And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea;3And did all eat the same spiritual meat;4And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.5But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness.6Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted.7Neither be ye idolaters, as were some of them; as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.8Neither let us commit fornication, as some of them committed, and fell in one day three and twenty thousand.9Neither let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed of serpents.10Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer.11Now all these things happened unto them for examples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.

 Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.

The Israelites forgot what blessings God had provided for them…… so they chose….

 **A. APOSTASY IN SPITE OF BLESSINGS (1-5)**

 1.They forgot the Blessings they received in the liberation from captivity and the crossing of the Red Sea (**1-2**)

a. Delivered by the hand of God…

 a. the bible says a mighty east wind blew upon the waters..IT WAS THE HOLY SPIRIT AT WORK ON THEIR BEHALF. It was the same wind that blew in the upper tabernacle that blessed the Apostles and were caused to cross over and were changed forever!!!

b. Protected by the hand of God…THEIR ENEMIES WOULD SOON BE NO MORE!!

c. Covered by the cloud of God….THE CLOUD…REPRESENTED JESUS WITH THEM!!!!

d. Baptized under water by God…THE CLOUD, THE WIND, POWER OF GOD WAS WITH THEM!!

e. Freed from Captivity by the hand of God. They were now on the other side!!

We need to Count our blessings and name them one by one!!!

For the Israelites the blessings did not end there….

 2. Blessings received as they sojourned in the wilderness (**3-4**)

a. Healings took place as they crossed over to the other side!!

a. They enjoyed Peace and Safety!

b. Shelter and Clothing!

c. Family increase

d. Manna from heaven..which contained all the necessary ingred. To sustain life.

God fed them spiritual meat from heaven and they all ate of that same spiritual food! They were consuming angel’s food!!!

Rich in vitamins, minerals, salts, sugars, and all manner of needs for life to be healthy!

e. Free water of Life which quenched all kinds of thirst!!! Water from the Rock of Life !!!

forget zepherhills water, forget aguafina, forget nestles!!!!!!

 3. Still, with most of them God was not pleased, and they died in

 the wilderness (**5**)

They involved themselves in Idolatry, sexual immorality, tempted Christ, and began to murmur and complain!!!

Again I repeat…

Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.

 **B. BELOVED THE EXAMPLE OF ISRAEL SHOULD SERVE TO WARN CHRISTIANS (6-14)**

 1. Their example of apostasy is given to us to warn us (**6**)

 a. Not to become idolaters (**7**) (**what can become and Idol?)**

 b. Not to commit sexual immorality (**8)(Do Christians Commit This?)**

 c. Not to tempt Christ (**9)(is it Possible for us to Tempt Christ?**)

 d. Not to murmur (**10)( Do we Murmur at God?)**

 2. Their history is recorded to admonish us all(**11**)

 a. For we can just as easily fall (**12**)

 3. Therefore,

a. flee from idolatry! (**14**)

b. flee from immoral acts

c. flee from your murmurings

d. flee from tempting Christ

e. flee from your lustful ways

f. flee from the corruptness of society

g. flee from covetousness

h. flee from illicit consumptions

i. flee from bad influences in your life!

j. flee and follow Christ!!!!

IN CLOSING….

GOD REMINDS US ALL…

There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but 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 to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.14Wherefore, my dearly beloved, flee from idolatry.15I speak as to wise men; judge ye what I say.

Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.