

The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly – for Some

II PETER

IF they escaped & are again entangled...

II PETER 2:19-21

Even denying the sovereign Lord who bought them

II PETER 2:1



It is impossible for those who have once been enlightened...
if they fall away, impossible to be brought back to repentance

HEBREWS 6:4-6

**“I refused to remain in the pulpit
and be an intellectual hypocrite.
I renounced my faith even though
it was the unpopular thing to do.”**

G. Vincent Runyon
Methodist Minister, 12 years

I love you guys, and I love all the friendships
and support I've built here.
And I think it's important to say
that I'm just not a Christian anymore...”

Paul Maxwell, author of “Desiring God”

I'm genuinely losing my faith...

Christians can be the most judgmental people on the planet – they can also be some of the most beautiful and loving people... but it's not for me. I am not in anymore.”

Hillsong songwriter Marty Sampson

**“I have undergone a massive shift
in regard to my faith in Jesus.**

**The popular phrase for this is ‘deconstruction,’
the biblical phrase is ‘falling away.’**

**By all the measurements I have for defining a Christian,
I am not a Christian.”**

Joshua Harris, author of “I Kissed Dating Goodbye,”
and former pastor of a mega-church in Maryland

“After 40 years of being a devout follower,
20 of those being an evangelical pastor,
I am walking away from the faith.
Even though this has been a massive bomb drop in my life,
it has been decades in the making.”

Dave Gass, the former pastor at Grace Family Fellowship,
pastor at Covenant Church and Cedar Community Church

Therefore, my brothers, be all the more eager to make your calling and election sure.

II PETER 1:10

Bible Knowledge Commentary – Hebrews 6:4-6

This passage has been interpreted in four ways:

- (1) that the danger of a Christian losing his salvation is described, a view rejected because of biblical assurances that salvation is a work of God which cannot be reversed;
- (2) that the warning is against mere profession of faith short of salvation, or tasting, but not really partaking of salvation
(*The New Scofield Reference Bible*, p. 1315);

(3) that hypothetically *if a* Christian could lose his salvation, there is no provision for repentance (*The Ryrie Study Bible*, p. 1843);

(4) that a warning is given of the danger of a Christian moving from a position of true faith and life to the extent of becoming disqualified for further service (1 Cor 9:27*) and for inheriting millennial glory.

(*I beat my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.)

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Deny the sovereign Lord who bought them
Escaped the corruption of the world by knowing Christ
Again entangled & overcome
Worse off at end than at beginning
Better not to have known righteousness –
than to have known & turn backs on the sacred command

II PETER 2:1,19-20

Once been enlightened...

Tasted the heavenly gift

Shared in the Holy Spirit

Tasted the goodness of word of God

if they fall away, impossible to be brought back to repentance

HEBREWS 6:4-6

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II PETER

Escaped the corruption of the world by *knowing* Christ
Again entangled & overcome
Turn backs on the sacred command

II PETER 2:1,19-20

Once been *enlightened...*

Tasted the heavenly gift

Shared in the Holy Spirit

Tasted the goodness of word of God

if they *fall away*, impossible to be brought back to repentance

HEBREWS 6:4-6

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they are worse off at the end than they were at the beginning.
better for them not to have known the way of righteousness

II PETER 2:1,19-20



If only for this life we have hope in Christ,
we are to be pitied more than all men.

I CORINTHIANS 15:19

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Make every effort to add to your faith
Don't be ineffective & unproductive in your knowledge of Christ
Be eager to make your calling & election sure
Pay attention to the word of the prophets
Watch for false teachers and don't be deceived

And the God of all grace,
who called you to his eternal glory in Christ,
after you have suffered a little while,
will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.

I PETER 5:8-11