



THE LORD'S FLOCK GROWTH DIGEST

PASTORAL GROWTH SERIES

Spiritual Stability

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November 6, 2019

"God himself could not sink this ship." - Captain Edward Smith of Titanic

Like Captain Edward, some Christians believed they were strong, mature, and in high positions in the church therefore nothing can destabilize them.

It is dangerous to think this way for, as it is written in 2 Pt. 3:17, *"Therefore, beloved, since you are forewarned, be on your guard not to be led into the error of the unprincipled and to fall from your own stability."*

All of us desire to be strong and mature followers of Jesus, therefore, we need to have spiritual stability.

I. What is Spiritual Stability?

A. Stability

- The condition of being stable
- Mental or psychological firmness
- In Mechanical Engineering: It is the ability to adjust to load changes without any reduction in performance.
- Ecology: It is the ability of an ecological community to resist disturbance or to return to its original state after disturbance.

B. Spiritual Stability

- A condition of growth, of being stable, of not being swept aside by persecutions, trials, deceitful teachings, and false doctrines. Spiritual Stability is the ability to fight these off because the Christian knows, understands, is convicted, and continues in the truth.

C. Warning: The church is always under attack.

D. The Charge

- Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations (Mt. 28:19).
- Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature (Mk. 16:15).

2. What are the conditions for followers of Jesus?

A. Be shrewd as serpents and simple as doves (Mt. 10:16).

- As we take the gospel to a hostile world, we must be wise (avoiding the snares set for us), and we must be innocent (serving the Lord blamelessly).

B. Be faithful until the end (Mt. 10:22).

- They will wage war against the Lamb, but the Lamb will triumph over them because He is Lord of lords and King of kings—and with him will be his called, chosen and faithful followers (Rev. 17:14).

C. Deny yourself, take up your cross, and follow me (Mk. 8:34).

Remember the Lord's promise: Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven (Mt. 5:10-11).

3. How does a Christian become Spiritually Stable?

A. Watch and Pray (Mt. 26:41).

- Three enemies
 - The Flesh (Gal. 5:17).
 - The World (Jn. 2:15-16)
 - The Devil (1 Pt. 5:8)
- Jesus Himself was tempted (Mt. 4:1-11) and we, too, will be.
- Be strong and steadfast! Do not fear nor be dismayed, for the Lord, your God, is with you wherever you go (Jos. 1:9).

B. Stand Firm (1 Cor. 16:13).

- We encounter persecutions (Lk. 21:12).
- We are in pursuit of righteousness (Mt. 6:33).

C. Formula for Spiritual Stability

- Watch and Pray + Stand Firm = Spiritual Stability

Captain Edward Smith of Titanic declared the Titanic unsinkable. Instead of declaring the same for ourselves, let us declare this: "The enemy could not sink me because God is my captain!"

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