

Book! – if one's name has not been written and retained in the Lamb's Book of Life, then it's clear even by the Parable of the Seed and Sower (by which we opened this blog) and other Bible passages that one can indeed "fall away from the faith," * especially today. Again, let's allow I Tim. 4:1 to say what it actually says: "Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith ..." (NKJV)

* NB: The Scriptures also clearly teach the security of the believer in light of God's sovereign call, election, etc. but once again, let's balance these many passages in light of the FULL Counsel of God! (And please do not falsely label me as *Arminian* in theological perspective! And by all means do not call me *Reformed* or a *Calvinist* either! See our Lord Jesus' harsh words on traditions of men in Mt. 15:1-20. We are called to build our *house* on God's authoritative Word, not on partial-truth, extra-biblical opinion-based constructs of man.)

So where does this leave us? "How shall we now live?"

Just like we've been counseled! In part, read Phil. 2:12, 13, Hebrews 13:5 and II Pet. 1:10 (and even I Cor. 15:1, 2 & Romans 8 – please include the many "ifs" in these two passages!). Let's read and heed Mark 13:28-37, Phil. 3:20, 21 and II Peter 3:3-9.

O gracious, merciful Lord of lords and King of kings, please help us rightly divide Your Word of Truth as we seek to heed that to which You've called us: Col. 3:16a. YES, may the Word of Christ dwell in us richly ... and correctly as You have so graciously outlined. May this include faith action – obedience to Your gracious revelation to us. Unto Your glory and praise we act and pray; In Christ Jesus' sweet name. Amen

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