



February 13, 2024

Tuesday/Wednesday Night Pilgrim's Progress Bible Study

Pastor Jesse Gistand

The PILGRIM'S Progress
The Wall of FAITH
The Mystery of Iniquity and Godliness
The Doctrine of the Preservation of the Saints
Luke 22:23-34

Preservation is the *Passive side of the believer's* experience in *being kept through* horrendous testing, by God and His providence, from *falling away*. Jude 1:24

1. **The FOG of WAR for the believer:** 1 Pet. 4:12
 - a. Recognize when you are (IN) the F O G – Job 23:8-9; (Job 1:21)
 - b. We are warned that *it is COMING* – Luke 22:31/Job 3:25/1 Pet. 5:8-9

2. **The FAILURE to SEE the FACTS in the Moment:** James 4:13-16 _____
 - a. Behind the WALL _____ is a DISTRACTION event – Luke 22:19-24
 - b. The LOSS of Spiritual *DIRECTION* _____ / _____ – Ps. 50:14-15/Job 3:1

3. **Their FAITH Under FURIOUS Assault:** John 10:9
 - a. Painfully Bad Advice Designed to TEMPT You – Job 2:9-10 – (Personal/Wife)
 - b. Probing Arguments of the Self Righteous – Job 4:1-9/Job 1:8-12 (Blind/Friends)

4. **Their FAITH Wondrously MAINTAINED by Christ:** Luke 22:31
 - a. Because FAITH is the Substance of things HOPED FOR – Heb. 11:6
 - b. Because HOPE is the GIFT of ASSURANCE in our SALVATION – Rom. 8:28
 - c. This HOPE is the CROWN of HUMBLE victory through CHRIST – 1 Pet. 1:13

A Fire Burning Against the Wall

Then I saw in my dream, that the Interpreter took Christian by the hand, and led him into a place where was a Fire burning against the wall, and one standing by it, always casting much water upon it, to quench it; yet did the Fire burn higher and hotter.

Then said Christian, What means this?

The Interpreter answered, This Fire is the Work of Grace that is wrought in the heart; he that casts water upon it, to extinguish and put it out, is the Devil: But in that you see the Fire notwithstanding burn higher and hotter, you will also see the reason of that. So he had him about to the backside of the wall, where he saw a Man with a Vessel of Oil in his hand, of which, he did also continually cast (but secretly) into the Fire.

Then said Christian, What means this?

The Interpreter answered, This is Christ, who continually with the Oil of His Grace maintains the work already begun in the heart: By the means of which, notwithstanding what the Devil can do, the souls of His people prove gracious still. And in that you saw, that the Man stood behind the wall to maintain the Fire; this is to teach you, That it is hard for the Tempted to see how this Work of Grace is maintained in the soul.