

Hokmah
“Wisdom”
4th August 2017

Do you think that it is true that we Christians tend to let our walk with God slide a little when things are going well in our lives? Do you think that we tend to only seek God with our whole hearts when trouble enters our lives? Is it true of us, in general, that we take advantage of comfort and plenty and start to worship other things instead of Jesus? If these things are true, then we have proven that people are the same from generation to generation. It is the pattern of those who follow God, to take advantage of His blessing, and use that blessing to in turn bless something or someone other than God.

The children of Israel were blessed by God. But as they grew fat in those blessings they turned away from God. [Deuteronomy 32:15-18](#) says, “[But Jeshurun grew fat and kicked—you are grown fat, thick, and sleek—then he forsook God who made him, and scorned the Rock of his salvation. They made Him jealous with strange gods; with abominations they provoked Him to anger. They sacrificed to demons who were not God, to gods whom they have not known, new gods who came lately, whom your fathers did not dread. You neglected the Rock who begot you, and forgot the God who gave you birth.](#)” “Jeshurun” is another designation for Israel. Israel grew fat because of God’s great blessing. When they got fat they got spiritually forgetful. The next thing we know is that they forsook the true God and started crediting demonic gods with their success and worshiped them.

God calls these people, later in the chapter, “Sons in whom there is no faithfulness.” Why do we accept God’s blessing and then forsake Him? What is in us that causes us to do that? The answer is the presence of the sin nature in us even though we have come to faith in God. In our case, it is even though we have come to faith in Christ. We still have a sin nature, and we can allow it to cause us to drift away from God. Aren’t we a strange creation? We come to God for help. He helps us and even blesses us. Then we turn away from Him and give our worship to that which does not merit it. In this case, the enemies of God, and of us, I might add. We prove to be faithless while riding the wave of His blessing on us.

In our country today, Christians don’t usually turn to golden image idol worship, they turn to worship the gold. How many Christians retire and dedicate themselves to more service to God? How many people advance in their income and also give more to God instead of raising their level of living? How many prosper and become more faithful to the worship and service of Jesus? We may not bow down to a literal image, but we do have idols. The danger is that the more blessing we have the more we pull away from the God who blessed us. There are those who are blessed and remain faithful, but is that the norm that we see? Has it been the norm for us personally? As we gain a more affluent life with greater resources, who benefits the most from that?

God does not mind blessing His people. God does mind blessing His people and watching them use that blessing to serve themselves or things in life they have made idols out of. When we do this we arouse the righteous jealousy that God has for those

who are His possession and inheritance. God's desire is that we be wise and understand these issues and that we would stop and discern our future in terms of our present course (:29).

In The One Who Blesses,
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