

BUT ... as scripture makes clear (as we contemplate life in the Kingdom of God - pictured by the Feast of Tabernacles) there are many Categories of ways that we can “blow it” and be excluded from eternal life in the family of God! Today we will explore these scriptures so we can be **fully aware** - & **prepared** to follow **God’s ways** in our lives...

Categories of ways that we can “blow it”

1. Reasoning yourself astray ... (accepting ... instead of repenting ... deceiving yourself!)

- **Rom 14:22-23** Do you have faith? Have *it* to yourself before God. Happy *is* he who does not **condemn himself in what he approves**. But he who doubts is condemned if he eats, because *he does not eat* from faith; for whatever *is* not from faith is sin.

(Many Christians are in doubt about certain courses of life. But they can have “no doubt” about the propriety of abstaining from them).

Fatal Reasoning ... “I’m a good person... baptised, pray, fast, tithe, serve, etc, etc ... “I’m special to God ...we talk all-the-time...He allows me certain actions (that are sin to others) because He sees my heart is motivated by “love”



- **Jer 17:9** The heart is deceitful above all things, & desperately wicked; Who can know it?
- **Proverbs 3:5-6** "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and **lean not on your own understanding**; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and **He shall direct your paths.**"
- **Psalm 139:23-24** Search me, O God, and **know** my heart; **try me**, and know my anxieties; & **see if there is any wicked way in me**, & **lead me** in the way everlasting

2. Being “Unrighteous”

- **1Co 6:9-10** Do you not know that the unrighteous **will not inherit the kingdom of God**? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.
- **Gal 5:19-21** Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things **will not inherit the kingdom of God**.
- **Eph 5:5** For this you know, that **no** fornicator, unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any **inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God**.

3. Not Overcoming (eg of cowardice or lack of faith)

- **Rev 21:7-8** He who **overcomes** shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son. But the **cowardly, unbelieving**, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the **lake which burns with fire** and brimstone, which is the second death.
- (eg cowardice) **Mat 10:32-33** "Therefore whoever confesses Me **before men**, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, him **I will also deny before My Father** who is in heaven.
- **2 Tim 3:12** Yes, & **all** who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution
- (eg unbelieving) **Heb 11:6** But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

4. Hatred, Violence, and Anger

- 1Jn 3:15 Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that **no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.**



5. Dishonouring Parents & Disobedience

- **1Tim 1:8-10** But we know that the law is good if one uses it lawfully, knowing this: that the law is not made for a righteous person, **but for the lawless and insubordinate, for the ungodly and for sinners, for the unholy and profane**, for murderers of **fathers** and murderers of **mothers**, for manslayers, for fornicators, for sodomites, for kidnappers, for liars, for perjurers, and if there is any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine
- **Rom 1:28-32** And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting; being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; they are whisperers, backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, **disobedient to parents**, undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, **unforgiving, unmerciful**; who, **knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death**, not only do the same but also **approve of those who practice them.**

6. False Teachers & Apostasy (Deception ... or wanting to follow their ways)

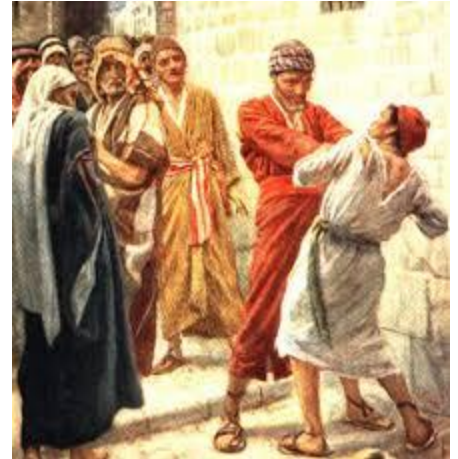
- **2Pet 2:1-2** But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be **false teachers** among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction & **many will follow their destructive ways**, because of whom the **way of truth** will be blasphemed.
- **1Tim 4:1-3** Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times **some will depart from the faith**, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron, forbidding to marry, & commanding to abstain from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth.

7. Unbelief and Rejection of the Gospel

- **Heb 3:12-14 Beware, brethren,** lest there be in any of you an **evil heart of unbelief** in departing from the living God; but exhort one another daily, while it is called "TODAY," lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. For we have become partakers of Christ **if** we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end
- **2 Timothy 4:3-4** For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.

8. Unforgiveness and Hard-heartedness

- **Mat 6:14-15** For **if** you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But **if** you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.
- **The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant**
Mat 18:21-35 Then Peter came to Him and said, "Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?" Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven. Therefore the **kingdom of heaven** is like a certain king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. And when he had begun to settle accounts, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. But as he was not able to pay, his master commanded that he be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and that payment be made. The servant therefore fell down before him, saying, 'Master, have patience with me, and I will pay you all.' Then the master of that servant was **moved with compassion**, released him, and forgave him the debt. But that servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and he laid hands on him and took him by the throat, saying, 'Pay me what you owe!' So his fellow servant fell down at his feet and begged him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you all.' And he would not, but went and threw him into prison till he should pay the debt. So when his fellow servants saw what had been done, they were very grieved, and came and told their master all that had been done. Then his master, after he had called him, said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. **Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?**' And his master was angry, and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him. **"So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses."**



9. Blasphemy

- **Mat 12:31-32** "Therefore I say to you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the **blasphemy against the Spirit** will not be forgiven men. Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven him, either in this age or in the age to come.
- **Hebrews 10:26-27** For if we **sin wilfully** after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful expectation of judgment



10. Injustice and Oppression - Lack of good fruit

• The Final Judgment

Mat 25:31-46 When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, **inherit the kingdom** prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.' "Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch **as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.**' Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the **everlasting fire** prepared for the devil and his angels: for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.' Then they also will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?' Then He will answer them, saying, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.' **And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.**"

- **Mat 7:19** Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire

11. Laziness and Slothfulness -- Not Enduring to the End



- **Heb 2:1,3** Therefore we must give the **more earnest heed** to the things we have heard, **lest we drift away...** How shall we escape if we **neglect** so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him

- **Rev 3:15-17** I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth. Because you say, 'I am rich, have become wealthy, and **have need of nothing**'—and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, & naked
- **Matthew 24:12-13** And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. But he who **endures to the end** shall be saved.
- **1 Thessalonians 5:19** Do not quench the Spirit.

12. Worldliness - Loving the world & its ways above spiritual things - **Greed & Materialism**

- **1Jn 2:15-16** **Do not love the world** or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the **lust of the flesh**, the **lust of the eyes**, and the **pride of life**—is not of the Father but is of the world.



- **Mar 10:23-27** Then Jesus looked around and said to His disciples, "**How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!**" And the disciples were astonished at His words. But Jesus answered again and said to them, "**Children**, how hard it is for those who **trust in riches** to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel (*rope?*) to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." And they were greatly astonished, saying among themselves, "**Who then can be saved?**" But Jesus looked at them and said, "**With men it is impossible, but not with God; for with God all things are possible.**"

Jude 1:24-25 Now to Him **who is able** to **keep you from stumbling** (*blowing it!*), And to present you faultless Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, To God our Savior, Who alone is wise, Be glory and majesty, Dominion and power, Both now and forever.

