

Walk, Stand, Sit – Navigating the Path of Righteousness

Part Three: Sit in the Right Chair

2.17.19

Psalm 1 NASB How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, Nor stand in the path of sinners, Nor sit in the seat of scoffers! ² But his delight is in the law of the Lord, And in His law he meditates day and night. ³ He will be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water, Which yields its fruit in its season And its leaf does not wither; And in whatever he does, he prospers. ⁴ The wicked are not so, But they are like chaff which the wind drives away. ⁵ Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, Nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous. ⁶ For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, But the way of the wicked will perish.

I. Understanding the Journey

- A. As we progress in our walk with God, there is a time to walk, to stand, and to sit.
- B. To walk means to move along a wise path as we progress.
- C. To stand means to take up a posture of righteousness and to become unmovable.
- D. To sit means to make determined, wise decisions that produce increasing stability in our standing before God.

II. With that understanding in place

- A. We WALK on the Right Road. (We do not follow the path of sinners. There is an abundance of demonic doors we can walk through.)
- B. We STAND in the right place. (We do not come to the same conclusions of the wicked. There are many dangerous stopping places we must avoid.)
- C. We SIT in the right chair. (We direct life from wisdom that disagrees with the scornful. There is a deadly way that seems to be life-giving.)

III. Central Truth: There is effort required to produce quality works. While works do not save us, they are part of the victorious Christian Life.

IV. Make every effort.

Note: Other versions translate “make every effort as follows:

NASB - be diligent; KJV - endeavor, labor toward; ESV - eager to maintain; strive to enter

A. Make every effort to persevere.

LUKE 13:24 NIV make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to.

B. Make every effort to obey scripture.

2 Peter 1:10 NIV Therefore, my brothers and sisters, **make every effort** to confirm your calling and election. For if you do these things, you will never stumble,

C. Make every effort to walk in holiness.

2 Peter 3:14 NIV So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, **make every effort** to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him.

D. Make every effort to obtain and extend forgiveness.

Hebrews 12:14, 15 NIV **Make every effort** to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord. ¹⁵ See to it that no one falls short of the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many.

E. Make every effort to be an encourager.

Romans 14:19 NIV Let us therefore **make every effort** to do what leads to peace and mutual edification.

F. Make every effort to keep life simple.

Hebrews 4:11 NIV Let us, therefore, **make every effort** to enter that rest, so that no one will perish by following their example of disobedience. Every effort to be an encourager.

G. Make every effort to walk in unity.

Ephesians 4:3 NIV **Make every effort** to keep the unity of the spirit through the bond of peace.

H. Make every effort to keep growing in God.

2 Peter 1:5-9 NIV For this very reason, **make every effort** to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; ⁶ and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; ⁷ and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love. ⁸ For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge

of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ But whoever does not have them is nearsighted and blind, forgetting that they have been cleansed from their past sins.

I. **Make every effort to leave a legacy.**

2 Peter 1:15 NIV And I will **make every effort** to see that after my departure you will always be able to remember these things.

V. **Christian Life Lessons**

A. Godly people make every effort to avoid a lifestyle of scorn.

1. We all begin our journey in innocence, but usually move through the following stages:

a. Innocent, yet broken.

b. Inquisitive, but still broken.

c. We eventually reach a point of acceptance or rejection of the Gospel. Many call this the “Age of Accountability.”

d. At this point, we may accept Jesus and begin the journey of Christianity.

e. Or we, pass from doubt to unbelief, and eventually to “scorn,” which is an attitude of contempt. A persuasion that the Gospel is worthless or despicable. We may be guilty of passive scorn or aggressive scorn.

2. Make every effort to avoid an evil heart of unbelief!

Hebrews 3:7-12 NASB Therefore, just as the Holy Spirit says, “Today if you hear His voice, ⁸ Do not harden your hearts as when they provoked Me, as in the day of trial in the wilderness, ⁹ Where your fathers tried Me by testing Me, and saw My works for forty years. ¹⁰ “Therefore I was angry with this generation, and said, ‘They always go astray in their heart, And they did not know My ways’; ¹¹ As I swore in My wrath, ‘They shall not enter My rest.’”¹² **Take care, brethren, that there not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God.**

B. While works do not save us, they are important.

C. Works provide the basis for reward in Heaven.