Don't Turn Back

"If they have escaped the corruption of the world by knowing the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and are again entangled in it and overcome, they are worse off at the end than they were at the beginning. It would have been better for them not to know the way of righteousness, then to have known it and then turn their backs on the sacred command that was passed to them. Of them the proverbs are true "A dog returns to its vomit. And, a sow that is washed goes back to her wallowing in the mud." (2 Peter 2:20-22)

What a sad feeling that comes to me when I hear that someone has gone to a wrong way of life. I feel sad that someone is caught and put in jail; I feel sad when I found someone stealing or involve in corruption. I feel bad when I hear about adultery, divorce or separation. I regret for people who are involved in extra marital relationship, drug addiction, gambling, drinking, etc.

It is really painful to hear and to know about such things happening to people who are called by the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; people who call themselves Christians

The Lord Jesus Christ came down from heaven; He became man, He shared in our humanity and He was made like us in every way. Jesus took our sins and nailed them on the cross; His blood was shed for the forgiveness of our sins. He died on the cross, was buried and raised from death to give eternal life to those who believe in Him, His blood was shed on the cross to cleanse us from our sins.

The blood of Jesus has the power to transform the lives of people, to bring them from life of sin to a righteous life, and to live a life to the full. When a man believes in Jesus and receives Him as His personal Savior and Lord, He receives the power to live a glorious life; it is a life full of miracles while He lives in the presence of God. He loves in fellowship and communion with God; through prayers he speaks to God and God listens to him and answers his prayer and petition. In the man's new life God becomes his Great Provider, his Refuge in times of need, his Healer in times of pain, and his Shield in time of trouble.

But what can we say if these people who are living or who are to live a wonderful life with God, one day we find them turning back to their old selves and old ways of life? The Bible says, *"It is impossible for those who*

have been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly gift, who have shared in the Holy Spirit, who have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the power of the coming age, if they fall away, to be brought back to repentance, because to their loss they are crucifying the Son of God all over again and subjecting Him to public disgrace." (Hebrews 6:4-6) People who are turning back are brining disgraceful things to the Lord Jesus. When they go back to their old practices in life, they bring shameful things in the name of the Lord; as if they are crucifying Jesus once again.

They are people who are called Christians who have wives and families but when they go to another country they look for another wfe. While they are away from their wives they get additional concubines. They know the word of God but they twist it and break it to justify their corrupt ways and fleshly desires. They become worse than before they knew Christ. Some of them even blaspheme the ways of the Lord and the truth of His Words. They gave up believing in the Lord Jesus and accept to embrace other religion or worship idols and other gods.

"If they have escaped the corruption of the world by knowing the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and are again entangled in it and overcome, they are worse off at the end than they were at the beginning." (2 Peter 2:20) They are like a dog who returns to its vomit. They are going back to wallow in the mud, in the life of sin. They are like pig that was washed but goes back to her wallowing in the mud. They go back to sinful life after they are washed and cleansed from their sins by the blood of Jesus. "It would have been better for them not to know the way of righteousness, than to have known it and then turn their backs on the sacred command that was passed on to them." (2 Peter 2:21)

My dear and beloved: Can we read from the lines the sadness that overwhelmed the writer of the above Scripture? Not only he, but also we find the pain and sorrow in the heart of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This message my hit certain people around or may even strike someone or you. But if this is the case, be earnest and repent for the Lord is waiting for you.

My Prayer: "Heavenly Father, I come before You in the name of Jesus. Forgive me, Lord, for all my sins. Lord, from the depth of my heart I ask You to accept me once more in your kingdom as one of your children. Lord, please don't count on me what I have done wrong but renew my thoughts and my ways. Cleanse me and direct me according to your Word. Lead me in the way everlasting. I pray in Jesus' name, Amen."