

## Come Back to God

Did you at one time attend Bible school, read the Bible, pray, and try to serve God? Did you trust in God and believe that He cared for you? Did you, along the way, allow the cares of this world to crowd God out like weed-choked seed in the parable of the sower? “And he that was sown among the thorns, this is he that hears the word; and the care of the world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he become unfruitful (Matt 13:22).”

Now that you are no longer trying to serve God, do you feel a great void in your life? Do you miss the strength, the power, and the contentment that comes from a daily walk with Jesus? We all need the spiritual power that comes to those who walk with the Lord. “If God *is* for us, who *is* against us? Paul wrote and concluded, “For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord (Rom. 8:31, 38, 39).”

In our absence in service to Christ, we also fail to teach our children about God and plant His word in their hearts. Paul instructed fathers, “You fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but nurture them in the chastening and admonition of the Lord (Eph 6:4).”

Everyone is a free moral agent, endowed with the power of choice, and responsible to God (Ezek. 18:19-24; 2 Cor. 2:10). Coming back to God is where one will find peace, strength, and forgiveness (Phil. 4:6-7; Rom. 8:31-39). Coming back to God gives hope beyond the grave (Eph.1:3-7; Rev. 20:12-15).

If you decide to come back to God, come all the way back. When the wise men came to Bethlehem seeking Jesus, they were not satisfied until they found him (Mt. 2:1-12). They did not rest until they came all the way. You should not be satisfied until you have returned all the way to God and His word. Studying the scriptures and having an open heart is essential (2 Tim. 2:15; John 5:39-40). The Lord has promised to help the sincere seeker of the truth (John 7:17; 8:32).

Coming back to Christ, means coming back to his church (Mt. 16:18; Acts 2:47; Eph. 5:22-30). Coming back to Christ includes acceptance of Christ and obedience to his gospel (Mk. 16:15-16; Rom. 6:16-18). Coming back to Christ requires the faithful living of the Lord’s way of life, which is the Christian life (Col. 3; Rev.2:10).

Find strength, power, and contentment, come back to Jesus.