

“RESTORE SUCH A ONE”

Galatians 6:1

I. “IF A MAN IS OVERTAKEN IN ANY TRESPASS”

A. **Romans 3:23; 1st John 1:8, 10**

Sin besets us all from time to time.

B. **Psalm 40:12; 38:4**

Our trespasses literally do “overtake” us.

C. **2nd Peter 2:9; 1st Corinthians 10:13**

Nevertheless, sin cannot “overtake” us unless we allow it.

II. “YOU WHO ARE SPIRITUAL”

We certainly can’t expect the unspiritual to do it! But who are the “*spiritual*”?

A. **Ephesians 1:3**

The “*spiritual*” are those who are “*in Christ*.” We know that access “*into Christ*” is gained through baptism (**Romans 6:3; Galatians 3:27**), so everyone who a Christian should be a “*spiritual*” person.

B. **1st Corinthians 3:1**

Sadly, however, not all who are “*called to be saints*” (**1st Corinthians 1:2**) can be appropriately addressed as “*spiritual*”.

C. **Romans 8:5-14; 1st Corinthians 2:14-16**

Some remain perpetually in the infantile stage of their faith, being carnally minded.

Therefore, if you have the mind of Christ, being a mature Christian, yours is the responsibility to restore the prodigal to Christ. If you don’t do it, who will?

III. “RESTORE SUCH A ONE”

A. **Matthew 18:11-14**

“Restore such a one” because Jesus came “to save that which was lost” (11) and it produces great joy (13)!

B. Luke 15:4-10

“Restore such a one” because heaven will rejoice over it (7) and because the value of a soul far exceeds that of money (8-10; Matthew 16:26).

C. James 5:19-20

“Restore such a one” because it is an opportunity to “save a soul from death”!

IV. “IN A SPIRIT OF GENTLENESS”

How must the effort be carried out?

A. Luke 6:31

What would convince you to return?

B. 2nd Thessalonians 3:14-15

Treat the subject with friendship and brotherly kindness, not animosity.

C. 2nd Timothy 2:24-26

Do so “in a spirit of gentleness.”

D. Jude 22-23

Do so fearfully.

E. Luke 15:11-32

Do so without jealousy.

V. “CONSIDERING YOURSELF LEST YOU ALSO BE TEMPTED.”

A. Matthew 7:4-5

We must always examine ourselves before criticizing others so that we do not do so hypocritically.

B. 1st Corinthians 10:12

We must realize the danger of our own apostasy if we are not cautious.

C. 2nd Corinthians 13:5

CONCLUSION

- A. Certainly, you know of someone who needs to be restored. Bring him back!
- B. Perhaps that one is you. If so, repent and confess.
 - 1. **Acts 8:13-24**

Simon had believed and was baptized (13), but then returned quickly to wickedness (18-21). He was told to repent and pray for forgiveness (22). He responded with a request for prayer on his behalf (24).
 - 2. **1st John 1:9**

God forgives His children who confess their sins.
 - 3. **James 5:16**

It is appropriate, as well, to confess to brethren that they may pray for the sinner, too.
- C. Or, perhaps you've never been saved.
 - 1. **John 6:45; Romans 10:17**

You must learn the gospel.
 - 2. **John 3:16; Hebrews 11:6**

You must believe in God and Christ.
 - 3. **Romans 10:9-10; Matthew 10:32-33**

You must confess the name of Christ openly.
 - 4. **Acts 3:19; 17:30**

You must repent to be made clean.
 - 5. **John 3:5; 1st Peter 3:21**

You must be reborn in the waters of baptism for salvation.