

Sheep or Swine?

by Thomas Brooks

Christians can fall into sin despite their repentance due to the weak and imperfect nature of their graces, but God will graciously pardon those sins that are not totally subdued.

Scripture: Psalm 51:10, Romans 7:15, 1 Corinthians 10:12, Galatians 5:17, Ephesians 6:12, Philippians 3:13-14, Hebrews 12:1, James 4:7, 2 Peter 2:22, 1 John 1:9

Topics: "Grace", "Struggle with Sin"

Description

Thomas Brooks emphasizes the struggle Christians face with sin, noting that even sincere repentance does not guarantee freedom from falling back into the same sins due to the persistent nature of sin in the heart. He reassures believers that while they may repeatedly stumble, God's grace offers forgiveness and understanding, distinguishing between those who fall due to weakness and those who revel in sin. Brooks highlights the importance of recognizing the difference between a repentant heart and a heart that delights in wrongdoing, urging Christians to remain vigilant in their faith.

Transcript

It is possible for Christians to fall into the same sins of which they have formerly repented--by the secret, subtle, and strong workings of sin in their hearts. And no wonder, for though their repentance is ever so sincere and sound --yet their graces are but weak, and their mortification of sin is imperfect in this life. Though by grace they are freed from the dominion of sin, and from the damnatory power of every sin, and from the love of all sin; yet grace does not free them from the indwelling of any one sin. Therefore it is possible for a Christian to fall again and

again into the same sin.

God will graciously pardon those sins to His people,
which He will not in this life totally subdue in His people.

I have never seen a promise in Scripture, which says that
when our sorrow and grief has been so great, or so much,
for this or that sin--that God will then preserve us from
ever falling into the same sin. The sight of such a promise
would be as life from the dead to many a precious soul,
who desires nothing more than to keep close to Christ,
and fears nothing more than backsliding from Christ.

Yet, there is a great difference between a sheep which by
weakness falls into the mire--and a swine which delights
to wallow in the mire! There is a great difference between
a woman who is raped, though she fights and cries out--
and an alluring adulteress!

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/thomas-brooks/sheep-or-swine/>

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