

### Salvation: By Grace or By Works

Judgment was endured by our Lord in our place. His spiritual death was the result of divine justice imputing its wrath toward our sins in Him. Thus, as far as the eternal future is concerned, our sins are no longer an issue and judgment is no longer a possibility.

**Romans 8:1** - There is therefore now no condemnation [**judgment**] for those who are in Christ Jesus.

As God's children, He, on occasion, administers chastisement to us as an act of mercy, grace, and love. Judgment may only be imposed where there is guilt. There is no condemning guilt assigned to the believer.

The believer may sin but that sin was judged on the cross and rebound will bring instant forgiveness. Consequently, we will never be judged for our sins but we are subject to chastisement because of a failure to utilize rebound. Such chastisement is the obvious result of our rebellion against the imperative moods of Scripture and our refusal to appropriate the grace recovery system.

God seeks to put down our rebellion through the chastening of divine discipline, much in the same way a father puts down a rebellious child through the chastening of the rod. The correlation between the two is clearly taught in Hebrews 12:5-12:11 which we will now note exegetically.

**Hebrews 12:5** - The writer of Hebrews is addressing Jewish believers in Jerusalem who had veered into reversionism.

This verse begins with one of the most important verbs in the Bible when it comes to explaining why believers move into reversionism. It's interesting to note that the same problem-solving device used by children is the same one used by believers in reversionism—"I forgot."

The verse begins with the perfect middle indicative of the verb *eklanthanomai* - "To entirely forget" This verb has both positive and negative connotations. A positive use would be the technique of the believer forgetting his past failures and moving forward toward the prize.

**Philippians 3:13** - Fellow believers, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of spiritual maturity as yet, but one thing I do: forgetting [*eklanthanomai*] what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead,

**Philippians 3:14** - I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

The negative application is found here. The reversionist's doctrinal inventory has atrophied to such a degree it is as if he never knew it in the first place.

perfect - Consummative. In the Greek, the perfect tense always see the action of the verb from the standpoint of completed action.

Further, the perfect may be expressed in two ways:

1. The intensive perfect which describes the action as completed and the results go on and on. Then there is,
2. the consummative perfect which indicates a completed action but you go back and look at the process by which the action was completed.

What has happened to the believers at Jerusalem is that they have completely forgotten all the doctrine they ever knew. The process which led to this is reversionism.