

Selected readings from Morning and Evening: Daily Readings, By
Charles Spurgeon

Reading 141

“Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.” 1 Corinthians 10:12

It is a curious fact that there is such a thing as being *proud* of grace. A man says, “I have great faith, I shall not fall; poor little faith may, but I never shall.” “I have fervent love,” says another, “I can stand, there is no danger of my going astray.”

He who boasts of grace has little grace to boast of. Some who do this imagine that their graces can keep them, knowing not that the stream must flow constantly from the fountain head, or else the brook will soon be dry. If a continuous stream of oil comes not to the lamp, though it burns brightly today, it will smoke tomorrow, and noxious will be its scent. Take heed that you not glory in your graces, but let all your glorying and confidence be in Christ and his strength, for only so can you be kept from falling.

Be much more in prayer. Spend more time in holy adoration. Read the Scriptures more earnestly and constantly. Watch your life more carefully. Live nearer to God. Take the best examples for your pattern. Let your conversation be suggestive of heaven. Let your hearts be perfumed with affection for men’s souls. Live so that men may take knowledge of you that you have been with Jesus, and have learned of him; and when that happy day shall come, when he whom you love shall say, “Come up higher,” may it be your happiness to hear him say, “You have fought a good fight, you have finished your race, and there is laid up for you a crown of righteousness which will not fade away.”

On, Christian, with care and caution! On, with holy fear and trembling! On, with faith and confidence in Jesus alone, and let your constant petition be, “Uphold me according to thy word.” He is able, and he alone, “To keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy.”