



## No Compromise

*Pastor Stephen Kaneshiro*

Wishy washy, flip flop, unsure, chameleon, and dismissive are all terms that are used for describing those who keep changing their views and actions. In today's environment, these are terms used for many politicians, but I would like to present to you that the most disturbing application of these terms is when they are used to describe a Christian's faith. To be wishy washy, flip flopping, unsure, chameleon, and dismissive about our faith is the most consequential actions that a Christian can ever make. During times of conflict and stress, the temptation to waiver and flounder on one's faith becomes very high. Biblical teaching and faith calls on us to be unwavering in our commitment and obedience to and on the Lord.



No matter how strongly the circumstances and influences may surround us, we are called to live an uncompromised life of love and obedience to Jesus Christ. **James 1:12-15 (NLT)** <sup>12</sup> *God blesses those who patiently endure testing and temptation. Afterward they will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him.* <sup>13</sup> *And remember, when you are being tempted, do not say, "God is tempting me." God is never tempted to do wrong, and he never tempts anyone else.* <sup>14</sup> *Temptation comes from our own desires, which entice us and drag us away.* <sup>15</sup> *These desires give birth to sinful actions. And when sin is allowed to grow, it gives birth to death.*

This passage in James tells us that God blesses those who patiently endure testing and temptation. At the end of verse 12, this passage tells us not only that God blesses them, but that He will give them the crown of life that He has promised to them. However, don't miss the fact that there is a prerequisite to receiving His blessings and promises. There needs to be patient endurance of testing and temptation.

Therefore, Christians who make excuses and continue to flounder and waiver in their love, faith, and obedience to Jesus Christ actually put themselves into a very precarious position. One where they will not receive His blessings and promises.

Many would want to place the blame on God Himself. Verse 13 gives a very strong warning when it says, "... do not say, 'God is tempting me.' God is never tempted to do wrong, and He never tempts anyone else." However, this scripture passage is giving a warning that it is very dangerous to blame God. To say that God is responsible and that He is tempting you will put you in conflict with God Himself. To be at odds with God will be a very regrettable and lamentable situation to be caught in.

The deplorable situation that this person would find themselves in would be very similar to the rich man's situation in Luke 16. **Luke 16:24-26 (NLT)** <sup>24</sup> *"The rich man shouted, 'Father Abraham, have some pity! Send Lazarus over here to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue. I am in anguish in these flames.'* <sup>25</sup> *"But Abraham said to him, 'Son, remember that during your lifetime you had everything you wanted, and Lazarus had nothing. So now he is here being comforted, and you are in anguish.'* <sup>26</sup> *And besides, there is a great chasm separating us. No one can cross over to you from here, and no one can cross over to us from there.'* He could not be reached because of the great chasm that separated them. I believe that he was also in great despair because he

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# No Compromise

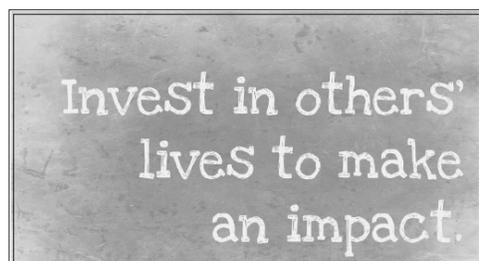
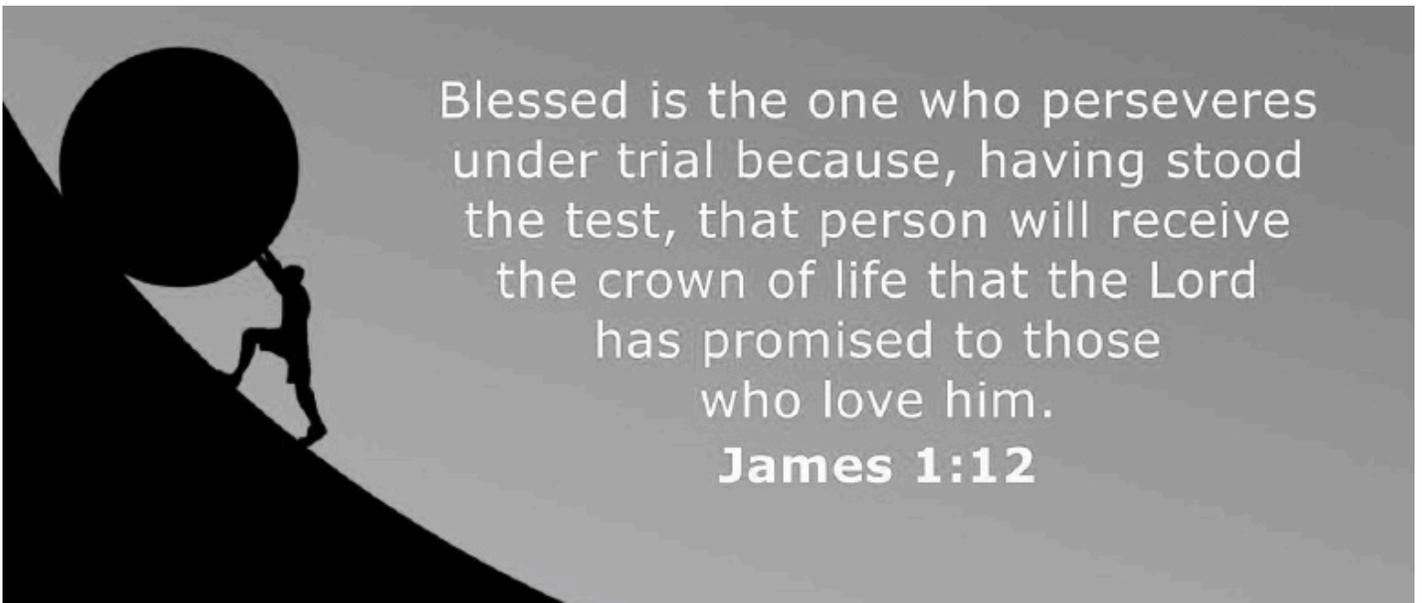
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realized the poor choices that he made on earth caused him to be condemned to this place of suffering. The story goes beyond verse 26 and this man is moved with concern for his family left on earth. He does not want them to follow the same path that he took and he wants father Abraham to send Lazarus back to warn his brothers. His despair must have grown exponentially when Abraham told him “no.”

Wrong decisions will bring with it dire consequences. Please know this. If you come to what you believe is a compromise with God, His commands, and His will, that is a wrong decision. This is because there is no compromise with God. Compromise with God is actually disobedience to Him. A compromise assumes that these are terms that both parties have agreed to. However, how would God agree to a compromise when what He proposes is always what is the very best? How could he agree on something that is less than the best for us?

When we come to know God’s will, we need to understand that there can be no compromise with Him. Therefore, we have to live our lives with no compromise for loving and obeying His desires and commands. Even in these COVID-19 days of unprecedented distress, let there be no compromise on loving and obeying Jesus Christ in everything. God bless you as you live lives of uncompromised love and loyalty.

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# MISSION NEWS

## NAMB Missionary Spotlight:



**Atlanta, GA**

**5,611,892** people live in metro Atlanta

**58.2%** of the population is estimated as lost

**1 SBC** church for every **5,507** Atlanta residents

“Pray that every church planter and plant is focused on evangelism. Pray God would bring more established churches to support Atlanta church plants. Pray Atlanta would lead the way in modeling racial reconciliation, foster care and adoption.”

- Tim Wolfe, Atlanta Send City Missionary

## International Mission Board



Connecting in Prayer

<https://www.imb.org/pray/>

### \* Windhoek, Namibia

(VIN-took) - Too many decades of being stripped of belongings and land and of being moved into the unwanted spaces by foreigners has left the Herero people feeling helpless and hopeless. They have learned to survive in ways that now define them as a culture. They are a strong, proud people who feel that they must stand alone in this difficult world. Jesus brings forgiveness and healing into any culture that cries out to Him, and He sets them apart as His chosen people. The Herero have yet to understand how desperate they are for salvation through Jesus Christ and all that brings with it for today and for eternity. Please pray that God will create in the Herero people a desire to leave the past behind and run towards the future God has prepared for them through Jesus Christ. Pray that God will strengthen and encourage existing believers to boldly declare the freedom that is found only in Jesus Christ.

### \* West Africa Trucker Ministry

“The phone call came in one night around 10:30. The guy on the other end of the line said, ‘Someone gave me this business card with your phone number. They said that if I had any questions, I should call, so I’m calling you.’ The phone call came from a truck driver. He had arrived at our city and wanted to know more about God’s stories. One of the building blocks of the trucker ministry has been to connect the team of storytellers from all the different truck stops along the truck route within six countries. One of the ways that we tackle that grand feat is with a business card. When we see a driver one day, we know that he could be taking off the next day, and we won’t see him again. But when we give him one of the trucker business cards, he has the potential of being connected to God’s Word in the six countries that he’s traveling through. A moving target is hard to hit, but by giving them our phone numbers, we can be the steady target in the midst of their travels. Praise the Lord for this effective tool!”

### \* Peoples of the Northern Mountains of Laos

“Father, You are the great God over all gods. You have power over spirits, and You lead Your people in the truth. We pray for the Village Between the Rice Fields and the Road. Half the village claims to follow You, but so many do not practice what they proclaim. Many men in the village are addicted to drugs. There are quarrels among the believers and between the believers and unbelievers. We ask for Your truth to be revealed in that village and not distorted by the actions or inactions of those who claim Your name. We ask that the people would see their worth and value in Your eyes, that they would see that work is a good gift You gave us before the Fall and that they would choose to work and provide for their families. We ask for unity among the believers and a sincere faith that is a testimony to those around them. We ask that You would heal the hurts of those in that village. May a true community of faith be found in that village as You continue Your work of redemption and restoration until Your kingdom comes and Your will is done in the Village Between the Rice Fields and the Road just like it is in heaven. Amen.”

# Narrow Is Good, Not Bad

*Pastor Stephen Kaneshiro*

## **Matthew 7:13-14**

I. The right way is very \_\_\_\_\_.

A. Can enter God's Kingdom \_\_\_\_\_ through the narrow gate.

B. Narrowly and specifically \_\_\_\_\_ only to God's way.

C. **John 14:6**

II. The wrong way is very \_\_\_\_\_.

A. This verse \_\_\_\_\_ the way to hell "The highway to hell..."

B. This verse \_\_\_\_\_ it as "broad."

C. This verse \_\_\_\_\_ that its gate is "wide."

D. Finally it \_\_\_\_\_ that "many choose that way."

III. The right way is \_\_\_\_\_.

A. It is very \_\_\_\_\_.

B. This road is \_\_\_\_\_.

C. Only a few every \_\_\_\_\_ it.

Notes: