



# Stay Out of Trouble!

## *Safeguarding Our Lives Against Spiritual Wipeouts*

3:17 Therefore, dear friends, since you already know this, be on your guard so that you may not be carried away by the error of lawless men and fall from your secure position. 18 But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen. (NIV)

1. Always \_\_\_\_\_ (v.17)

2. Always \_\_\_\_\_ (v.18a)

3. Always \_\_\_\_\_ (v.18b)

# Application Questions

*These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's message. It is recommended that you take time this week to write out your response to each of these questions. This will help to drive home the point of today's message and will help you apply the principles to your life situation.*

1. We often tend to trust ourselves. We like to think that we have what it takes to navigate our way safely through the hazards and pitfalls of this life. We can often be heard saying things like, "I'll manage" and "I can take care of myself". What does Philippians 3:3 have to say about that? What should the Christian perspective be about such things?

In what ways in and what areas is it hard for you to abandon trust in yourself?

2. What are some of the hazards that you have learned to be wary of because of our study in 2 Peter?

At this stage in your Christian life, what do you think are some of the more prominent dangers that threaten your walk of obedience? Be specific.

3. Forward progress in the Christian life is critical if we are to avoid the scars and setbacks of besetting sins. The status quo can be our nemesis! Static or plateaued Christianity is trouble waiting to happen. How have you experienced or seen this to be true in the Christian life?

Describe the current progress in your Christian life. What signs indicate that you are truly growing in your walk with Christ. (If you sense that you are not currently making forward progress as you ought, write down a few things you will commit yourself to do that can help get your Christian life moving ahead.)

4. Success in the Christian life is utterly dependent on Christ's Spirit working in and through us. In what practical ways can you keep this in mind and daily work to shift your trust from yourself to him?

We are often tempted to take the credit for our successes (and pass the blame for our failures). How can you make it clear to yourself and others that Christ deserves all the credit and glory for your spiritual growth?