

Don't Look to Me

by Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian church

Hebrews 12:1-2, "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God."

It is a sad fact that many people look at, or to, the wrong example in life. We can't help but be influenced by people that we see in this life. Sometimes it is for good and we are inspired by someone and helped by the example that they set. On the other hand sometimes we see someone who disappoints us and we are discouraged by that person. It may be that he made one mistake, or failure, and it is remembered more than whatever good he may have done before.

Mistakes, errors, or outright sins, stand out in a person's life. He might have been caught in a weak moment and didn't mean to, or want to fail. Can any of us say that we haven't failed at some point or another? If you tell me that you are so good and perfect that you've never erred from the path, I'll tell you to repent of lying. No matter who we are we will fail at times as long as we are in this body of flesh. No one is immune to the temptations in this life.

We get tired, frustrated, angry, and tempted by the flesh like any human. The Christian will resist sin and if he fails he will go to the Lord in genuine repentance. God's children don't want to sin and will fight against it. This is a battle that we will fight as long as we live. Some people don't understand this and think that a Christian should be perfect. I know it sounds good and I'm all for it, but as Jesus said, "Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." Matthew 26:41.

If we want a good example, the right example, then look to the Lord. He, and him alone,

is the standard of righteousness. Jesus will not fail you, he never has and never will. Any man, myself included, will fail you even though we try not to. It is a sad thing to think of the many mistakes that we make in life. The comfort and hope that we have is that if and when we repent and ask the Lord for forgiveness he forgives. Man may not, but God does. 1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

The devil doesn't quit bothering you because you come to the Lord. If anything he tries harder to make you give up on God. As long as we seek to walk with God and trust in him and not in ourselves, we will be alright. We can't overcome this flesh by ourselves, but God will help us if we ask him. Beware of anyone who acts like they are perfect and know everything. They are lifted up by pride.

My counsel is - pray for one another and help where you can. We all need to help each other in this life. Look to Jesus for the right example, no one else comes close to our Lord.

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HER NAME APPEARS ONLY ONCE IN THE BIBLE—BUT....

DORCAS (OR TABITHA—THE ARAMAIC FORM OF THE NAME) A FEMALE DISCIPLE OF JESUS, LIVING IN JOPPA. SHE WAS KNOWN FOR HER GOOD WORKS SUCH AS MAKING COATS AND GARMENTS FOR THE POOR. WHEN SHE DIED, HER FRIENDS PREPARED HER FOR BURIAL AND SENT FOR PETER, WHO HAPPENED TO BE IN NEARBY LYDDA AT THE TIME....

...WHEN PETER ARRIVED HE SENT THE MOURNERS OUT OF THE ROOM AND PRAYED EARNESTLY. THEN HE BADE THE YOUNG WOMAN TO ARISE—AND SHE OPENED HER EYES AND DID! NEWS OF THIS ACT SPREAD ABOUT JOPPA AND INSPIRED MANY CONVERSIONS TO THE NEW CHRISTIAN FAITH. (ACTS 9: 36-42)

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