

Nobody ever need to be afraid of Jesus, because He is the epitome of love, kindness, geniality, warm attractiveness and sweetness. And that is exactly what the Holy Ghost is, for He is the Spirit of the Father and the Son. Amen.

A.W. Tozer

Prayer Study #292

**THE LORD WARNS US NOT TO BE IGNORANT OF
FOUR THINGS**

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- 1. Do not be ignorant of the fact that just because you are in the Body of Christ does not mean that the Lord is well-pleased with you:** 1st Corinthians 10:1-13: *Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea, all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For them drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ. But with most of them God was not well pleased, for their bodies were scattered in the wilderness. Now these things became our examples, to the intent that we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted. And do not become idolaters as were some of them. As it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play." Nor let us commit sexual immorality, as some of them did, and in one day twenty-three thousand fell; nor let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted and were destroyed by serpents; nor complain, as some of them also complained and were destroyed by the destroyer. Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come. Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it. Paul was dealing here with eating meat that was offered to idols. Many of the Corinthians believed that because they were baptized in Christ, they did not have to follow the rules. I think the Apostle Paul and the Holy Spirit is trying to tell us here that even those in the church who are under the cloud or guidance of the Lord still are very vulnerable to fail and to fall. The lesson here is that we should never follow men and we should not lust after things outside of the will of God for us. Most of*

these Israelites became idolaters. An idol is anything in your life that you put in place of God. Any one of us could so easily fall today. It is very important that we try to stay in the will of God and not grieve or quench the Holy Spirit because we want to do things our way. His grace towards us is marvelous and wonderful, but that grace does not give us the license to intentionally sin.

2. **Do not be ignorant concerning spiritual gifts:** 1st Corinthians 12:1: *Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant.*
3. **Do not be ignorant concerning those Christians who have died:** 1st Thessalonians 4:13: *But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them who are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others who have no hope.*
4. **Do not be ignorant that God's time is not our time:** 2nd Peter 3:8: *But beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years and a thousand years as one day.* The man asked God, "What is a million years to you?" God answered, "Just a second." The man asked God, "What is a million dollars to you?" God answered, "Just a penny." The man asked God, "May I borrow a penny?" God answered, "Yes, in just a second." This joke illustrates the fact that God's does not measure time like we do. Many believe we are living near the end of the 6th day. On the 7th day God rested. Thus, Jesus will be coming back for mankind at the end of the 6th day. Soon and very soon we are going to see the King!

The reason to discuss these four things in a study of the Holy Spirit is clearly because one of these areas that the Lord specifically tells us in His Word not to be ignorant of is spiritual gifts. Much of the remaining portion of this class will be devoted to study of spiritual gifts. I just will say here that the writer of Hebrews tells us in Hebrews 13:8: *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.* And John tells us in John 1:1 and 14: *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God, and And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.* Clearly we can see that the Word is the same yesterday, today, and forever, and we should not be ignorant today concerning spiritual gifts just as much as those first century Christians to whom Paul was writing. And why would the Holy Spirit not want us to be ignorant of them if we were not suppose to use them?