

A rapid analysis of our Bible passages will help us to have things in proper perspective for our observations.

In the first of these, Luke 8:22-25, we are met with the crossing of the Galilean Sea and the moment when the disciples thought they might drown in what appeared to them to be the lack of concern by the Lord. They had forgotten the previous miracles, to some extent at least, and were perplexed that the master could sleep while the storm raged and threatened. His request was almost gentle when he asked them about their faith...making it plain that at that moment, their faith had "failed" them.

The passages in Luke 9 and 10 must be put together. The Lord urged His own in Luke 10 not to be giddy over the fact that they had power over spirits, for in Luke 9 they had not had the power they needed. Their contentment is to be in the knowledge of Him and if it moves to something else, it is possible that the individuals will not be able to do the works that they think are desired. Many a believer has failed to reckon with this and has thought that in a given moment--his faith failed.

In Luke 22 the Lord is warning Peter in particular and all the Apostles in general about the aims and intentions of the enemy. His sober caution is to the end that they do not allow their expressions of faith to fail them...mostly by overstating their spiritual abilities. Peter will experience a tragic fall in a few hours and the other disciples will fare but little better. It will seem that their faith has fallen and they will be dejected persons as they reflect on what has befallen the Lord.

With these general Scriptural concepts in mind, we may proceed then and note for ourselves more emphatically...what it means and what it is...when faith fails.