

Returning to Your First Love - Putting God Back in First Place - by Tony Evans

Are You Being a Carnal Christian

- Means to live for self instead of for Christ
- is stagnant - not growing; still on milk, not meat
- fleshly living - speaks Christian, lives something else

Is there anything in your life that others can see that can't be explained as just part of everyday life?

Parable of the Sower

- What type of soil are you?
- do you respond to the seed?
- how do you respond to trials?
- what type of foundation do you have?
- are you living a godly life?
- are you experiencing contentment?
- are you being choked? - worry - riches - pleasure

The Signs of Backsliding

The Sign of Neglect - neglect of spiritual matters - passive disobedience
- taking things for granted

The Sign of Spiritual Insensitivity - hard heart - not bothered by sinning - not worried about consequences

The Sign of Refusal of a proper spiritual diet - dull of hearing - are you still in training?

The Sign of Withdrawal from the fellowship - where are you?

The Sign of Rejection - have you fallen away? - do you look like everybody else?

Dealing with the signs

- neglect - use gratitude
- insensitivity - brokenness and contrite heart - Psalm 51
- refusal to grow - start studying
- withdrawal - get back
- rejection - repent

Sins of the flesh

- sexual sins
- superstitious sins - idolatry - sorcery - drugs
- social sins
 - hatred toward others
 - strife
 - jealousy
 - outbursts of anger
 - arguing
 - envy, drunkenness, carousing

High Cost of Leaving Your First Love

- divine discipline
- unanswered prayer
- loss of assurance
- spiritual amnesia
- physical death

Returning to Your First Love - Remember, Repent, Redo

Remember - Who Jesus is; Who you are; What awaits you

Repent - the importance of repenting

Redo - Thinking with a new mind; Making God' Kingdom a priority; Caring for God's people