

BEWARE LEST YE FALL
II PETER 3:17

Introduction:

- A. Oftentimes we fail to notice warning signs.
 - 1. Young man killed on East Belt Freeway Bridge.
 - 2. Many killed and injured at R.R. Crossings.

 - B. The majority ignore God's warning signs.
 - 1. There may be many.
 - a. Blessings. b. Illness. c. Bible. d. Spirit.
 - 2. The Bible is filled with them.
 - 3. John the Baptist asked; "Who hath warned you..."

 - C. Christians are also warned to beware.
 - 1. Satan is always stalking God's children.
 - a. I Peter 5:8.
 - b. Never believe that you are strong!
 - 2. Jesus taught us to, "Watch and Pray!"
- I. GOD'S PEOPLE ARE NOT IGNORANT OF THE TRUTH.

- A. "Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before."
 - 1. These are "beloved" people.
 - 2. They are aware of the previously mentioned facts.

- B. We know as much as they did!
 - 1. We are God's people.
 - 2. We have these epistles plus others.

- C. This knowledge makes responsible.
 - 1. God commands us to learn,.
 - 2. He command us to do.

II. GOD'S PEOPLE SHOULD BEWARE OF FALLING.

- A. What is the nature of this "falling?"
 - 1. falling = to fall away, to fall down, as from a higher to a lower place.
 - 2. It is not falling from a position of sonship or ownership, but has to do with fellowship, and loss of reward.

- B. The Christian can fall from his "steadfastness."
 - 1. steadfastness = a setting fast, fixedness.
 - 2. "lose your own stability."
 - 3. "lose your proper foothold."
 - 4. You may know someone who was "steadfast," but has fallen.

- C. The Christian can be led away.
 - 1. If we lose our stability, it is because we have been led away!
 - 2. God does not lead us away.
 - 3. We are "led away" by the error of the wicked One or wicked persons.

- D. Peter tells these Christians to "beware."
 - 1. beware = to watch, to guard.
 - 2. To be on guard.

- E. We can lose what we have earned.
 - 1. Watch what you say.
 - a. Psalm 141:3 "Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth."
 - 2. Rev. 3:3 (1-5). Church at Sardis.
 - 3. II John 8 [read].
 - 4. Heb.4:1-16, v11 - Some did not enter the promise land.