

his death than he did during his life. The victory was in terms of a holy life. Mark well this terrifying possibility in the life of any child of God--one can presume upon privileges, compromise holy standards, break solemn vows, forget God, and yet lose his power.

Dear Christian friends, if you have started out upon the road of compromise, turn back while the spirit of God speaks. Remember Paul's words to the Corinthians, "I keep under my body and bring it into subjection less when I have preached to others I should myself be a castaway." (1 Corinthians 9:27)

Trace Samson's downfall. There was outward compromise, but I believe there was an inner condition that is described by Proverbs 14:14, "The backslider in his own heart shall be filled with his own ways."

Backsliding of heart consists in taking back ones consecration to God by leaving ones first love, by withdrawing from communion with God. Service for the Lord is no longer joy. If we love God supremely, it is impossible that we should not enjoy His service at every step. Our hearts should grow; we should be liked in Him. Many duties may be neglected yet the conscience will remain silent because it is no longer keen and discerning.

was grinding away with the salves at the world's mills. We may continue to open our Bibles, but we cannot see what we once saw. We try to do something for God, but we are bound. There is no strength or liberty; we've failed. We have compromised and we have been lead a captive.

Now, the Hebrew word Samson means sunshine. Manoah's wife received this little baby in answer to prayer. This child was the sunshine of their home and they names him Samson. They committed him to the Lord that he might not only be sunshine in their home, but to the nation. God had a man here that He might work through, but now how dark the night closed in on him whose name was sunshine. Sinning against light, Samson now walks in darkness with the loss of his eyes and without a holy life.

because he received and other humblings on the occasion of his repentance. It is more than many have done, and perhaps you ought to confess that the humblings which have come to your life. To blame God and further reject his testing.

As Samson's repentance grew, so did his locks of hair. So also did his strength return. Perhaps as he ground at the mill, he turned his heart to God, and with great sobs of confession of his awful sin, "Oh God, thank Thee for enabling these blind eyes to see now. Thank Thee for these fetters."