# Deuteronomy 7:1

When the LORD thy God shall bring thee into the land whither thou goest to possess it, and hath cast out many nations before thee, the Hittites, and the Girgashites, and the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, seven nations greater and mightier than thou;”

# Deuteronomy 7:2

**“And when the LORD thy God shall deliver them before thee; thou shalt smite them, *and* utterly destroy them; thou shalt make no covenant with them, nor shew mercy unto them:”**

- **Promises of the Covenant:**
  - **Land: God promised Abraham and his descendants the land of Canaan as their eternal inheritance.**
  - **Descendants: Despite Abraham's old age and Sarah's barrenness, God assured him that his offspring would be as numerous as the stars in the sky.**
  - **Blessings: God promised to bless Abraham and make him a blessing to others. Through him, all nations of the earth would be blessed.**
- **Sign of the Covenant: Circumcision was introduced as the physical sign of this covenant, symbolizing the people's commitment to God.**
- **Faith and Obedience: Abraham's faith and willingness to obey God, even to the point of being ready to sacrifice his son Isaac, demonstrated the depth of his trust in God's promises.**
- **Significance for Christians: Christians see the Abrahamic Covenant as foundational to their faith. The promise of blessings to all nations is fulfilled in Jesus Christ, who brought salvation to the world.**

# Jeremiah 22:21

- **“I spoke to you in your [times of] prosperity,**
  **But you said, ‘I will not listen!’**
  **This has been your attitude *and* practice from your youth;**
  **You have not obeyed My voice.**
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  **This verse highlights how, even during times of prosperity and security, the people of Judah refused to listen to God's warnings and guidance. It underscores a recurring pattern of rebellion and spiritual neglect, which ultimately led to their downfall. The context of this verse is a call for repentance and a reminder of the consequences of ignoring God's voice.**

- **Christian spiritual and material prosperity are interconnected concepts that reflect God's blessings in different aspects of life. Here's how they are understood:**

1. **Spiritual Prosperity: This is the richness of one's relationship with God, characterized by faith, wisdom, and the fruits of the Spirit. It includes inner peace, joy, and a sense of purpose. Spiritual prosperity is often prioritized in Christianity, as Jesus taught in Matthew 6:33: *"Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added unto you."***
2. **Material Prosperity: This refers to tangible blessings such as wealth, health, and well-being. While the Bible acknowledges material prosperity as a gift from God, it cautions against placing too much emphasis on it. For example, 1 Timothy 6:10 warns: *"For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil."***
3. **Balance and Purpose: The Bible encourages believers to honor God with their resources and use them to further His kingdom. Proverbs 3:9-10 advises: *"Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your harvest; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will overflow with new wine."***

# Spiritual attack

- **Definition and Nature:**

  **A spiritual attack refers to a series of events or circumstances orchestrated by demonic forces aimed at disrupting a believer's faith, spiritual growth, and relationship with God. These attacks can manifest in various forms, including temptation, doubt, fear, confusion, and physical or emotional distress. The Bible acknowledges the reality of spiritual warfare, emphasizing the believer's need for vigilance and reliance on God's power.**

- **Defense Against Spiritual Attacks:**
  **The Bible provides believers with tools to withstand spiritual attacks. Key among these is the "armor of God," described in Ephesians 6:13-17. This spiritual armor includes:**

  **· The Belt of Truth: Grounding oneself in the truth of God's Word to counter deception.**
  **· The Breastplate of Righteousness: Living a life of integrity and holiness as a defense against accusations.**
  **· The Gospel of Peace: Being prepared to stand firm in the peace that comes from the gospel.**
  **· The Shield of Faith: Trusting in God's promises to extinguish the fiery darts of doubt and fear.**
  **· The Helmet of Salvation: Protecting the mind with the assurance of salvation.**
  **· The Sword of the Spirit: Utilizing the Word of God as an offensive weapon against spiritual deception.**

# Moral decline turning away from God

1. Spiritual Distancing: Loss of faith:

- This can involve questioning or abandoning previously held religious beliefs.
- Shifting priorities: Focusing on worldly matters and neglecting spiritual practices like prayer, meditation, or religious services.
- Emotional detachment: Feeling a sense of distance or disengagement from one's faith or spiritual community.
- Resentment or anger towards God: Feeling bitterness or disappointment towards a deity or the teachings of one's religion.

## 2.Behavioral Changes:

- Neglecting religious practices: Ceasing to attend religious services, engaging in prayer, or participating in religious rituals.
- Living in sin: Engaging in behaviors or actions that are considered unacceptable or forbidden by one's faith.
- Ignoring moral guidance: Rejecting or disregarding the moral teachings or values promoted by one's religion.
- Seeking pleasure in worldly pursuits: Prioritizing material possessions, fame, or other worldly desires over spiritual growth or connection.

## 3.Reasons for Turning Away:

- Personal struggles: Dealing with difficult life circumstances, emotional pain, or mental health challenges.
- Loss of trust: Feeling disillusioned with the faith or community,or experiencing disappointment with religious leaders or teachings.
- External factors: Experiencing conflict with religious authorities, encountering negative experiences within the faith community, or being exposed to opposing viewpoints.
- Internal conflict: Questioning the validity of one's beliefs, experiencing a crisis of faith, or feeling a disconnect between one's personal values and religious teachings.

- **Causes for Spiritual Blindness in the Bible**
- **Escape From Bondage - ROMANS 8:1-9**
- 1Therefore there is now no condemnation [no guilty verdict, no punishment] for those who are in Christ Jesus [who believe in Him as personal Lord and Savior]. 2For the law of the Spirit of life [which is] in Christ Jesus [the law of our new being] has set you free from the law of sin and of death. 3For what the Law could not do [that is, overcome sin and remove its penalty, its power] being weakened by the flesh [man's nature without the Holy Spirit], God did: He sent His own Son in the likeness of sinful man as an offering for sin. And He condemned sin in the flesh [subdued it and overcame it in the person of His own Son], 4so that the [righteous and just] requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us who do not live our lives in the ways of the flesh [guided by worldliness and our sinful nature], but [live our lives] in the ways of the Spirit [guided by His power]. 5For those who are *living* according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh [which gratify the body], but those who are *living* according to the Spirit, [set their minds on] the things of the Spirit [His will and purpose]. 6Now the mind of the flesh is death [both now and forever—because it pursues sin]; but the mind of the Spirit is life and peace [the spiritual well-being that comes from walking with God—both now and forever]; 7the mind of the flesh [with its sinful pursuits] is actively hostile to God. It does not submit itself to God's law, since it cannot,
- **8and those who are in the flesh [living a life that caters to sinful appetites and impulses] cannot please God.**
- **9However, you are not [living] in the flesh [controlled by the sinful nature] but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God lives in you [directing and guiding you]. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him [and is not a child of God].**

- **Causes for Spiritual Blindness in the Bible**
- **They Are Blinded by Pride**
  - **“Pride goes before destruction, and haughtiness before a fall.”—Proverbs 16:18**
- **They Refuse to Admit They Are Wrong**
  - **“Why haven’t you obeyed the Lord? Why did you rush for the plunder and do what was evil in the Lord’s sight?” “But I did obey the Lord,” Saul insisted. “I carried out the mission he gave me. I brought back King Agag, but I destroyed everyone else. Then my troops brought in the best of the sheep, goats, cattle, and plunder to sacrifice to the Lord your God in Gilgal.” But Samuel replied, “What is more pleasing to the Lord: your burnt offerings and sacrifices or your obedience to his voice? Listen! Obedience is better than sacrifice, and submission is better than offering the fat of rams.”—1 Samuel 15:19-22**
- **They Are Rebellious and Stubborn**
  - **“Rebellion is as sinful as witchcraft, and stubbornness as bad as worshiping idols. So because you have rejected the command of the Lord, he has rejected you as king.”—1 Samuel 15:23**

- **Causes for Spiritual Blindness in the Bible**
- **They Are Blinded by Their Fear of Personal Loss**
  - **“Someone came to Jesus with this question: “Teacher, what good deed must I do to have eternal life?” “Why ask me about what is good?” Jesus replied. “There is only One who is good. But to answer your question—if you want to receive eternal life, keep the commandments.” “Which ones?” the man asked. And Jesus replied: “‘You must not murder. You must not commit adultery. You must not steal. You must not testify falsely. Honor your father and mother. Love your neighbor as yourself.’” “I’ve obeyed all these commandments,” the young man replied. “What else must I do?” Jesus told him, “If you want to be perfect, go and sell all your possessions and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.” But when the young man heard this, he went away sad, for he had many possessions.”” —Matthew 19:16-22**

**They Have Hardened Their Hearts**
**“Remember what it says: “Today when you hear his voice, don’t harden your hearts as Israel did when they rebelled.”**
**Hebrews 3:15**