Crossville Church of Christ P.O. Box 211 Crossville, TN 38557 Phone 484-5297 or 484-2960 707-0025 Fax

OMPAS

Using God's Word to Chart The Course Of A Congregation

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Elders:

Frank Bohannon Jiggs Killgore Jonathan Loveday Larry McDuffee Brian McLaughlin Jon Tatum

Deacons: Jim Bell **Charles Evans** Kyle Fairman Dale Hennessee Mike Isaacson **David Kerley** Doug Loveday Greg Maxwell Don Napier Tom Parham Mark Roberts Roger Smith Jason Wyatt Jerry Wood

Ministers:

Barry Kennedy Ken Mears

Missionaries: (India)

Don Iverson Jim Waldron

Service Times

Sunday Bible Study 9 AM Sunday Worship 10 AM 6 PM Wednesday 6 PM

OTHER ACTIVITIES: Ladies Bible Class

11AM Tuesdays **Prayer Meeting** Tuesdays 10 AM

Joyful Generation

(Youth Devotional & fellowship)

7:00 PM 1st Sunday



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July 8: "My Joy & My Crown, an Introduction" Ben Bailey, McMinnville, TN

July 15: "My Joy & My Crown in Grace & Peace" (Phil. 1:2)

Tom Holland, Brentwood, TN

July 22: "My Joy & My Crown in Prayer & Preaching" (Phil. 1:4, 15-18) Jason Gann, McMinnville, TN

July 29: "My Joy & My Crown in Faith" (Phil. 1:25)

Brandon Parsley, McMinnville, TN

AUGUST

August 5: "My Joy & My Crown in Fellowship & Unity" (Phil. 1:5, 2:1, 2) Bill Williams, Manchester, TN

August 12: "My Joy & My Crown in Christ's Return" (Phil. 2:16) Tony Britt, Pikeville, TN

August 19: "My Joy & My Crown in Christian Service" (Phil, 2:17-22)

Paul Sain, Pulaski, TN August 26: "My Joy & My Crown Being in the Lord" (Phil. 3:1-7)

Ralph Hart, Manchester, TN

SEPTEMBER

September 2: "My Joy & My Crown in Present & Future Things" (Phil. 3:13-14) Stephen Law, Crossville, TN

September 9: "My Joy & My Crown in Right Thinking" (Phil. 4:8)

Tony Lawrence, McMinnville, TN

September 16: "My Joy & My Crown in Contentment" (Phil. 4:11-12)

Dale Barger, Wheeler Hill, TN

September 23: "My Joy & My Crown in Christ Given Strength" (Phil. 4:13) David Lipe, Cookeville, TN

Page 2 COMPASS

FATAL DISTRACTION

Ken Mears

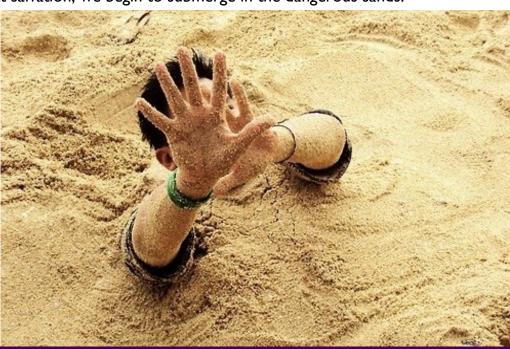
Fatal Attraction, Fatal Vision; Fatal Obsession are some of the movies which have appeared on the big screen and on TV. The titles of these movies imply that there is going to be a disaster. One of the greatest disasters for a child of God is distraction. While we are distracted by the routines of life, we may lose our family, our health, and more importantly our soul.

No child of God plans to become distracted to the point that harm is done to others or himself. We may become distracted and not realize that we are in danger until the damage is done. The story is told of a young mother who left her baby in the shade of a large tree and went on her way. Being consumed with other things, she forgot her child. When she finally returned, the bright summer sun had been shining in the baby's face and blinded it for life. The mother meant no harm, but she and her precious child had to pay a heavy price for her negligence. Distraction may seem to be an innocent thing, but it carries with it a heavy penalty.

The parable of the sower, is an excellent example of what happens to one's relationship to God's word when he becomes distracted. "Hear ye therefore the parable of the sower. When anyone heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he that received seed by the way side. But he that received the seed into stony places, the same is he that heareth the word, and anon with joy receiveth it; yet hath not root in himself, but dureth for a while: for when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, by and by he is offended. He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful. But he that received seed into the good ground is he that heareth the word, and understandeth it; which also beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some and hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty" (Matt. 13:18-23).

There's a wide, shallow river in one of our western states that has this peculiarity--its bed is nearly all quicksand on which you may travel in safety on the condition that you keep on moving; but the moment you halt, the treacherous sands begin to engulf you. How like the world in which we live! As long as we are moving in the line of sacred duty, we are perfectly safe; but the moment we halt or neglect the great salvation, we begin to submerge in the dangerous sands.

When the child of God becomes distracted, he has opened the door for his adversary to attack. The devil goes about as a roaring lion seeking those which can be devoured (I Peter 5:8). Eternal disaster will follow those who will not turn their faces toward the Son. "Set your affections upon things that are above..." (Col. 3:2). "For in due season we shall reap, if we faint not" (Gal. 6:9).



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"NEVER," "NEVER," "NEVER," "NEVER" GO TO HELL David Sproule

Have you ever said, "I will never do that," and then you end up doing it after all? Perhaps as a child you said, "When I am a parent, I will never do that" or "never say that," and then when you became a parent you ended up doing it or saying it after all? Some might do it with a career or job — "I would never do that kind of work" and then end up doing it. Some might do it with marriage — "I would never marry someone like that" and then end up doing it. Some might do it with some sinful behavior — "I will never drink/gamble/cheat on my spouse/leave the Lord," and then end up doing it.

Wouldn't it be nice to say, "I will never go to hell," and end up really not going? Wouldn't it be nice to have the assurance right now that you will never, never, never go to hell? Did you know that God uses the word "never" in Scripture to guarantee your eternal deliverance from that eternal fire?

Before raising Lazarus from the dead, Jesus said, "Whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die" (John 11:26). While all men will die physically (Heb. 11:27), Jesus promised that those who believe in Him (present tense, emphasizing continuous activity) would forever avoid the second death and never go to hell.

Jesus identifies His sheep in John 10 as those who "hear My voice...and they follow Me. And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish" (John 10:27-28). Jesus promised that those who follow Him (present tense, emphasizing continuous activity) would go to heaven and never go to hell.

In a conversation with the antagonistic Jews in John 8, Jesus declared, "If anyone keeps My word he shall never see death" (John 8:51). Jesus promised that those who keep the word of the Lord would never experience spiritual death or separation from Him.

Summarize these passages. For one to be able to state with confidence, "I will never go to hell," he must continually believe in Jesus, continually follow Jesus and resolve to keep His word! Someone might say in pride, "I will never go to hell," but end up going because they fail in these

areas.

As the New Testament was winding to a close, the apostle Peter urged Christians to give "all diligence" to grow as a Christian and "be even more diligent to make your call and election sure." What benefit would follow? "For if you do these things you will never stumble," but rather "an entrance...abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord" (2 Pet. 1:5-11). Can you say today, "I will never, never, never, never go to hell"? If not, the Lord told you how to fix it!

