

Stumbling Blocks

- *skandalon* "occasion to fall (of stumbling), offence, thing that offends" (<u>Strong</u>)
- "any impediment placed in the way and causing one to stumble or fall" (<u>Thayer</u>)
- O A trap, snare, hindrance

Stumbling Blocks

- Sin is individual (Ezekiel 18:20), but in a real sense I am "my brother's keeper."
- God wants EVERY SINNER to be saved.
 Luke 17:2; cf. 1 Timothy 2:3-4;
 2 Peter 3:9; cf. John 3:16
- Stumbling comes but, WOE to the one through whom they come. Luke 17:1

How May I Be A Stumbling Block?

False teaching.

- O To Eve. Genesis 3
- In Israel. Isaiah 30:10; Jeremiah 5:30-31; 23:27, 32
- In the church. Acts 20:28-30; 2 Peter 2; 2 Timothy 4:2-4; James 3:1

How May I Be A Stumbling Block?

Neglect Influence.

- You are salt, light.
 Matthew 5:13-16; Philippians 2:12-16
- Words and character counts.
 Colossians 4:6; Titus 2:4-8; 1 Peter 2:11-12
- May not involve things that are wrong in themselves. 1 Corinthians 8; 10; Romans 14

How May I Be A Stumbling Block? Negligent husband or wife. cf. Matthew 5:28-32 • Physical satisfaction. 1 Corinthians 7:1-7; Proverbs 5:15-19

Emotional satisfaction. Proverbs 31;
 Colossians 3:19; 1 Peter 3:7; Ephesians 5:33

How May I Be A Stumbling Block?

Neglect Children. Psalms 127:3-5

- Teach the children. Deuteronomy 6:4ff; Colossians 3:21
 - Answer their questions. "Where is the lamb?" Genesis 22:7
 - "What mean ye by this service?" Exodus 12:26; cf. 14
 - "What mean the testimonies, and the statutes, and the ordinances ..." Deuteronomy 6:20
 - "What meaneth these stones?" Joshua 4:6, 22,

How May I Be A Stumbling Block?

• Neglect the church. Revelation 3:15-16

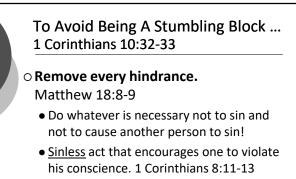
- Proverbs 29:18, "Where there is no vision, the people perish" KJV
- Did not prepare for the generation to come. cf. Judges 2:10

To Avoid Being A Stumbling Block ... 1 Corinthians 10:32-33

\circ Mind the things of God.

Matthew 16:21-23

- Christian's mind must be on things above. Colossians 3:1-2, 12-17
- Heart (mind) of humility, considerate of others. Philippians 2:5
- Mind to suffer rather than sin. 1 Peter 4:1-2
- Live according to the Spirit ... submit to the law of God. Romans 8:5-8 (Peter in Matthew 16:22)



• <u>Sinful</u> act or attitude. Matthew 5:27-30 (Romans 13:14)

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To Avoid Being A Stumbling Block ... 1 Corinthians 10:32-33

- Have no fellowship with error in teaching.2 John 9-11
- Have no fellowship with error in practice.
 Ephesians 4:17; 5:8ff; don't go along.
 1 Peter 4:4; 1 Corinthians 5
- \odot Do not grow weary. Galatians 6:1ff

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Removing The Stumbling Blocks Shows you love the lost. Romans 10:1 Shows you love the weak in conscience. 1 Corinthians 8:13 Shows you love your own soul.

cf. Matthew 18:6