

# The Church of No Return

By Charles Stambaugh 1973

*There once was a church called "The Church of No Return". This church was like a traveler going to the "Promise Land". The road upon which they were traveling was called "The Road of Spiritual Growth".*

*"The Church of No Return" was making great progress on "The Road of Spiritual Growth". But they soon came to a fork in the road which caused them to stop. "The Road of Spiritual Growth" went straight and became narrow and few travelers seemed to be taking it. (Because strait is the gate and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life and few there be that find it. Mat 7:14)*

*The youth of "The Church of No Return" pointed out that ahead was a mountain called, "The Mountain of Persecution", which "The Road of Spiritual Growth" went straight up. This was because the world was turning more and more from God. "The Mountain of Persecution" was becoming harder and harder to climb. For this reason the youth of "The Church of No Return" were afraid to continue on "The Road of Spiritual Growth" and to climb "The Mountain of Persecution".*

*(It is to be noted that each succeeding one that comes to "The Mountain of Persecution" will be more afraid to climb it. But how rejoicing will be the few that do climb! For their reward will be far beyond man's comprehension! (But as it is written, eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him. I Cor. 2:9))*

*But woe was "The Church of No Return" for it has decided to take "The Road of Worldly Concepts" which goes around "The Mountain of Persecution". "Why not take "The Road of Worldly Concepts"? After all it is wide and many travelers seem to be taking it!" said "The Church of No Return". (.. for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in there at. Matt 7:13) "Besides, we can go back to the "The Road of Spiritual Growth" if we don't like it this way."*

*“The Road of Worldly Concepts” seemed to have many sharp curves which caused many other travelers to crash. The scenery along “The Road of Worldly Concepts” became more and more ugly and more destruction was encountered. This did not bother “The Church of No Return” because its people thought they were going in the right direction.*

*But soon, “The Road of Worldly Concepts” started getting muddy and finally “The Church of No Return” got stuck. The eyes of the leaders of “The Church of No Return” were finally opened. “This is not the way we wanted to go!” the leaders said. “We have been deceived by our own people! For our people really wanted worldly concepts and not spiritual concepts!”*

*So the leaders of “The Church of No Return” decided to push their church out of the mud and find the path that led back to “The Road of Spiritual Growth”. But ahead of them once lay a bridge called “The Bridge of God’s Will”, which connected man with God. However, the enemies of God had used SIN to blow up “The Bridge of God’s Will”. As a result whoever traveled “The Road of Worldly Concepts” would soon plunged off “The Cliffs of Worldly Doctrines” and into “The Lake of Fire” where they burn forever and ever. (And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire. Rev 20:15)*


*The leaders of “The Church of No Return” kept pushing the church towards “The Road of Spiritual Growth” but at the same time, the same people, who wanted to go on “The Road of Worldly Concepts”, were steering “The Church of No Return” right towards “The Cliffs of Worldly Doctrines”. So instead of getting closer to “The Road of Spiritual Growth”, “The Church of No Return” was getting closer to “The Lake of Fire”. The leaders not realizing this, kept pushing “The Church of No Return”.*

*Then, with a great terrified cry, “The Church of No Return” plunged right off “The Road of Worldly Concepts” and right into “The Lake of Fire”, where it burned forever and ever.*

*Woe to “The Church of No Return” for its leaders tried to help it. But its leaders forgot one important thing... changing the attitude of their people. For it was the people’s attitudes which steered “The Church of No Return” right off “The Cliffs of Worldly Doctrines”.*

*What the leaders should have done was to ask “The Lord of Lords” to change their people’s attitude. For if the people’s attitude soon did not change then the leaders should have left “The Church of No Return” because the farther the leaders pushed “The Church of No Return” the closer it came to being “The Church of No Return”.*

*Thou blind Pharisees cleanse first that which is within the cups and plates, that the outside of them may be clean also. Matt 23:26*

The written text (unless indicated) within New Heart Beat Devotions media is licensed by Charles L. Stambaugh  under the [Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial 4.0 International License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/). This international license means you do not need permission to reproduce, distribute, edit, remix, or build upon. However, you must give appropriate credit and indicate if changes were made. You may not do so in any way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use. You may not use this material for commercial purposes. The pictures and images within this media are not licensed and are from and for public domain. If you have questions, comments, or want to discuss about our Lord, you can contact Charles at PO Box 612 Mt Wolf PA 17347 or at [NHBDevotions@gmail.com](mailto:NHBDevotions@gmail.com). New Heart Beat Devotions is not affiliated with any other organization or church. Verses used are from the King James Version. [NewHeartBeatDevotions.com](http://NewHeartBeatDevotions.com).