

QUICKSAND

-Ryan Parsons-

I once visited a beautiful secluded beach to enjoy its rare beauty. As I walked along the shore, my guides mentioned that segments of this beach were well-known for quicksand. It was explained to me that, at certain times of the year, quicksand became a legitimate problem. As we continued walking down the beach, instead of looking at the magnificence all around me, I started focusing on where I was walking/standing. I was trying to identify any potential hazards and avoid them. An eerie feeling swept over me as I concluded my walk. I would visit that island for several more years but never had any urge to revisit that beach. Whether the quicksand story was true or not, I couldn't shake the idea of being trapped in quicksand.

In our day-to-day lives, with concrete or similar materials surrounding much of our existence, we don't worry much about sinking into a deadly pit of shear-thinning non-Newtonian fluid. So, we carry on with our lives confident and feeling secure. However, there is "quicksand" all around us. They are traps. Scripture calls us to "Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour (1 Peter 5:8)" God's inspired writers also point out the remedy. Paul calls the Christians in Corinth to mind where they stand. This doesn't seem to be an alarmist statement. Instead, it appears to be framed in the sobriety Peter mentions. They are challenged to be aware, constantly assess, and make proactive choices.

1 Corinthians 15:1-2

Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

He says the only safe place to stand is in the gospel. The good news about Jesus is the bedrock. His Lordship provides a foundation for building our lives and where we never fear descent or destruction (Matthew 7:24).

Psalms 18:2

The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

Mind where you walk and stand. Stick to the gospel, and you will be just fine.

Peace,
Ryan