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Are you a duck-backed Christian?

Down feathers next to the skin keep ducks warm. Contour feathers with vanes that function like zippers aid flight and keep ducks insulated from the water and cold. A gland near their tail, known as the uropygial or preen gland, has a wax-like, oily substance. Ducks dip their bills into it and spread it over their feathers from head to tail. This makes water literally roll off their backs, keeping them dry, warm, and afloat. Ducks are constantly preening to repair feathers and keep them waterproof.¹

Like the duck's wax-like oily substance that causes water to roll off the duck's back, a common view of many (if not most) Christians prevents them from being impacted by almost 10% of the verses in the New Testament. Read on to see if you are one of these "duck-backed" Christians.

Jesus warned His disciples that if one of their eyes causes them to stumble, they should pluck it out and cast it from them. He said that it would be better to have one eye and enter into eternal life than to have two eyes and end up in hell. When you hear or read this warning from Jesus, does it create any concern in you as to whether you will end up in heaven or hell?

Jesus told a parable about ten virgins that took their lamps to the wedding. While they waited, they slumbered. When they were told that the bridegroom was coming, five of them noticed that their lamps were going out due to a lack of oil. But five of them had plenty of oil to keep their lamps bright. The five with insufficient oil went to buy more oil. When they returned to the wedding, the door was shut. They knocked on the door, but the bridegroom told them that he would not open the door because he did not know them. When you hear or read this parable, does it create any concern in you as to whether you will end up in heaven or hell?

If passages like the ones mentioned above do not cause concerns in you about where you will spend eternity, then you are a "duck-backed" **Christian**.² Your "all set" theology is acting like the wax-like oily substance on the back of birds. But instead of water running off, important Bible passages are running off you without their intended impact.

Over 8% of the New Testament verses contain such warnings that are intended to instill concern IN BELIEVERS so that they do not perish. Jesus and the Apostles used such warnings to believers, not unbelievers. It grieves me greatly that so many Christians have bought into the teaching that since they are "**saved**"³ (as they call it), they have absolutely no reason to be concerned about where they will spend eternity. They completely ignore the fact that only those who endure to the end will be saved. By the way, those who endure to the end certainly take heed to passages like the ones mentioned above. They are not duck-backed Christians. Instead, they are greatly impacted by such passages. As a result, they watch over their souls with all diligence so that they do not end up shipwrecked in their faith and perish. To get a greater sampling of New Testament passages that are intended to help you endure to the end, [click this link](#).

¹ I (Tom Bear) did not write this first paragraph.

² And if you are a pastor who teaches such things, then you might be considered a "quack" when you do teach them.

³ Instead of being founded on clear New Testament teaching, this widespread doctrine relies upon the deductions of human beings. This was not the view of Jesus, His apostles or the early N.T. church. ([They viewed salvation mainly as that which occurs when Jesus comes back and results in salvation from the coming wrath of God.](#))