

LESSON THREE: HOW TO BE SURE YOU ARE ETERNALLY SECURE

Can a Christian Lose His Salvation?

“Not only can you know that you are saved, you also can be certain that you will never lose your salvation.”

It is essential to know that you can never lose your salvation because of several things:

1. Your spiritual _____.

2. Your _____.

When we know the _____ is secure, we can concentrate on the _____.

Golden Gate Bridge, San Francisco, CA

When construction on the Golden Gate Bridge began in 1937, there was no safety net to protect the workers. Twenty-three workers fell to their deaths in the perilous waters far below the bridge.

The city of San Francisco decided to spend an enormous sum to put a safety net under the next section, but once the safety net was in place only a handful of workers ever needed it. The work went faster, and the workers could concentrate on their jobs without worrying about the danger of death.

3. Aid in _____. The God who _____ you is the God who will _____ you.

If you are genuinely heaven _____, you are heaven _____.

Matthew 7:22-23 - “Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your

name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I **never** knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'"

John 10:27-29 – “My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of my Father's hand.”

1 John 2:19 – “They went out from us, but they were not of us, for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us; but they went out that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us.”

The faith that fizzles before the _____ had a flaw from the _____.

Eight reasons you can believe in the eternal security of the believer:

1. God's Sacred _____.

Romans 8:38-39 KJV – “For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

2. God's Determined _____.

Philippians 1:6 – “Being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ.”

God is the _____.

He is the _____.

He is the _____.

God never _____ something He can't _____.

3. God's Sovereign _____.

Romans 8:29-30 KJV - "For whom He did foreknow, He also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom He did predestinate, them He also called: and whom He called, them He also justified: and whom He justified, them He also glorified."

4. Calvary's Perfect _____.

Hebrews 10:14 KJV - "For by one offering He hath perfected forever them that are sanctified."

KEY THOUGHT

Nobody is saved twice, because Jesus only died once.

Romans 4:5-8 - "But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness, just as David also describes the blessedness of the man to whom God imputes righteousness apart from works: Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; blessed is the man to whom the Lord shall not impute sin."

5. The Saint's New _____.

2 Corinthians 5:17 - “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.”

“Security is not in a place, it's in a person—His name is Jesus.”

6. The Believer's Eternal _____.

John 5:24 KJV - “Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on Him who sent Me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.”

7. Jesus' Interceding _____.

John 17:9 - “I pray for them. I do not pray for the world, but for those whom You have given me, for they are Yours.”

John 17:15 - “I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the Evil One.”

Jesus prayed for Peter that his faith should not fail (Luke 22:31-32).

John 17:20 - “I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word.”

Hebrews 7:25 - “Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He ever lives to make intercession for them.”

KEY THOUGHT

The finished work of Jesus is Calvary, the unfinished work of Jesus is intercession.

8. God's Almighty _____.

1 Peter 1:5 - "...for you who are **kept by the power of God.**"

LESSON THREE: DAY ONE

God's Forever Family

Can you imagine the emotional state of a child who does not know from day to day whether or not he is a member of the family? Today, since he was a good boy, he is considered a member. But tomorrow, if he misbehaves, he may no longer be a member. Today, he is loved by his father. Tomorrow he may not be. This child would be a neurotic mess.

You are a part of your family, regardless of your behavior. So it is in the family of God, too. If you belong to Christ, you are part of the family, and can enjoy the emotional security our Heavenly Father wants us to experience.

Jesus said, “My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me; and I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, who gave them to me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand” (John 10:27-29).

Read Ephesians 1:4-6. According to verse 4, when did God choose us?

According to verse 5, how did we get into God's family?

According to verse 6, God has made us:

Explain, in your own words what you think it means to be “accepted in the Beloved”:

Read Ephesians 1:7-14. Paul sums up our position in God's family by using the phrase "in Him." According to verse 7, what do we have "in Him?"

According to verse 11, what have we already obtained?:

According to verse 13, what did God do to us after we believed?:

In verse 14, God's children are referred to as His:

God's Engagement Ring

Ephesians 1:13-14 says that the Holy Spirit has been given to us as a deposit, guaranteeing our inheritance as God's children. The word translated as "deposit" is the same word used when a man promised to marry a woman. The Spirit is a promise—and God always keeps his promises!

LESSON THREE: DAY TWO

He Who Began...

God will complete what He has begun. In Philippians 1:6, Paul says, “Being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ.”

When you were saved, who began the good work in you? It was God. He was the One who called you. The Holy Spirit showed you that you were a sinner in need of salvation. He convicted you of your sin and converted you by helping you understand the Gospel. He was the One who put faith in your heart and helped you receive the Lord Jesus Christ.

But He is not just the Convictor or the Convertor; He is also the Completer. He never starts anything that He does not intend to finish. There is no job that proves too big for Him. He has begun a good work in your life, and He intends to complete it. If any of His children were to perish apart from Him, that would mean God had been defeated in His purpose.

The fact is, God *will* persevere in the lives of His children, and complete the good work He has begun.

Read Ephesians 4:13. List four things mentioned in this verse that God is working into our lives as we mature in Him:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

In Hebrews 10:14, we read, “For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified.” Does being perfect mean that we will never sin again?

How are we perfect?

Does God see you as perfect? _____

Why is that significant?

LESSON THREE: DAY THREE

Your Destiny Is Determined

For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the first-born among many brethren. Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified. (Romans 8:29-30)

The Bible says God foreknew certain ones and predestined them to be like Jesus. That is, He predetermined their destiny. He planned out what was going to happen to them. If you are predestined for heaven, then you'll be in heaven and you will be like the Lord Jesus. You couldn't be in hell and be like Jesus Christ.

That passage in Romans offers a chain of five golden links: foreknowledge, predestination, calling, justification, and glorification. If you are a child of God, He already sees you glorified. He already pictures you in heaven. It doesn't say that some day He will glorify you, but that you are already glorified. Your salvation did not begin with you. It began before the creation of the World.

God knew you were going to be born, and He already had a plan for you to be with Him. He sees you predestined for heaven, being like His Son Jesus Christ. What could possibly stop that? How could you ever lose your salvation if you are predestined to be like Christ? What is settled in eternity cannot be undone in time. What has been decreed by heaven cannot be annulled by hell.

Read Romans 8:29-30. What do the following mean?

...that God "foreknew us."

...that He "predestined us."

...that He predestined us “to be conformed to the likeness of His Son.”

...that He “called us.”

...that He “justified us.”

...that He “glorified us.”

Is it significant that those words are in the past tense?

Noah’s Ark—A Picture of Our Salvation

How safe was Noah when it began to rain? Noah was as safe as the ark. He may have fallen down inside the ark, but he never fell out. He couldn’t because God sealed him in. Not only did God seal Noah in the ark, but He sealed the water out.

The believer is in Jesus as Noah was in the ark. He is sealed into Jesus by the Holy Spirit and not one drop of Judgment can get to those who are in Jesus, the Ark of Safety.

LESSON THREE: DAY FOUR

"I Never Knew You"

When we look at the issue of eternal security, we must first define our terms. Eternal security is for believers, people who have received Jesus Christ into their hearts by faith. They are born again, having become partakers of the divine nature. This person can never again be a lost soul.

Now, we have all known people who were apparently saved, but no longer have any interest in spiritual things. They used to attend church—maybe they were even baptized—and they seemed to be Christians. But I would argue that they never were truly saved. These are the ones Jesus spoke about in Matthew 7:22-23 when He said, “Many will say to me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast our demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me you who practice lawlessness.’”

Notice that Jesus doesn't say, “I once knew you, but you lost it.” He says He never knew them. They may have done all sorts of religious things, but they never knew God. They turned away from Him at some point, and they do not have eternal life.

Every church has experienced plenty of people who are baptized, join as members, and seem to live for God awhile, but then turn away. They were never saved. If they left the faith and stayed away, we can be sure they were never saved. That's the message John gives us in 1 John 2:19: “They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us.”

If these folks had really been Christians, they would have remained in the faith. They didn't lose their salvation—they never had it!

Have you ever known anyone who seemed to be a Christian, then walked away from the faith?

Did you believe they were saved?

Read Matthew 13:24-30 and 36-43. How can some of the people in that parable appear saved?

What happens to them?

Hebrews 10:38-39 contrasts those who are truly saved with those who fall away. What is the distinguishing characteristic of the truly saved?

LESSON THREE: DAY FIVE

Kept by His Power

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. (I Peter 1:3-5)

We are kept by the power of God. There is no power which can force open God's hand and pluck us out of it. If Satan could do it, he surely would have. God saved us from the power of Satan. He also saved us from the power of ourselves, for John 10:28 promises that “*they shall never perish*” which literally translated means, “they can never destroy themselves.”

The Good Shepherd takes care of us, His sheep. We are kept secure by the power of God. We can rejoice that we are eternally secure in the hands of a God who loves us.

KEY THOUGHT

If I had to depend upon my behavior to keep me saved, I'd be hopelessly lost.

What three promises does Jesus give us in John 10:28 regarding our eternal security?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

According to John 10:29, we can have confidence in God's power to keep us because:

A rhetorical question is one in which no answer is given because the answer is obvious. Read Romans 8:31-39. Answer these rhetorical questions:

If God is for us, who can be against us?

Who can bring a charge against God's elect?

Since Christ died and paid our penalty, who condemns us now?

Circle the correct answer. What shall separate us from the love of God?

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| death | life |
| angels | principalities |
| powers | things in the present |
| things in the future | things above |
| things below | any created thing |
| none of the above | |