

The Security Of The Soul

Part 2

- Part 1 of this study examined the view that one who has accepted Christ can never be lost.
- The Bible makes it abundantly clear that this view is false and a Christian can be eternally lost.
- God will not save those who cease to love Him and keep His commandments.
- God will not save those who practice what He hates. (Prov. 6:16-19).

Prov 6:16 There are six things which the LORD hates, Yes, seven which are an abomination to Him:

Prov 6:17 Haughty eyes, a lying tongue, And hands that shed innocent blood,

Prov 6:18 A heart that devises wicked plans, Feet that run rapidly to evil,

Prov 6:19 A false witness {who} utters lies, And one who spreads strife among brothers.

- God will not save those who do not do His will. (Matt. 7:21-23; Heb. 5:9).

Matt 7:21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven {will enter.}

Matt 7:22 "Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?'

Matt 7:23 "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.'

Heb 5:9 And having been made perfect, He became to all those who obey Him the source of eternal salvation,

View 2

1. We are now ready to consider the second extreme view that was mentioned in part 1 of this lesson.
 - a. There are those who teach and believe that a child of God can have no security of salvation. If you ask them if they are saved, they say, "I'm not sure. I don't know, I hope so."
 - b. There is an agonizing old song that begins with the words, "Am I saved or am I lost? This is the point I long to know."
 - 1) A Christian does not have to sing this song and live in fear and doubt.
 - 2) He can be confident of his/her salvation.
 - c. Those who disagree need to carefully study and meditate on these scriptures found in 1 John. (1 Jn. 2:3-5; 3:1, 14; 1 Jn. 5:13).

1 John 2:3 By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments.

1 John 2:4 The one who says, "I have come to know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him;

1 John 2:5 but whoever keeps His word, in him the love of God has truly been perfected. By this we know that we are in Him:

1 John 3:1 See how great a love the Father has bestowed on us, that we would be called children of God; and {such} we are. For this reason the world does not know us, because it did not know Him.

1 John 3:14 We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love abides in death.

1 John 5:13 These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

d. These scriptures set forth the fact that a child of God can be confident of his salvation.

e. The word “know” makes this abundantly clear.

2. Let us now consider how we can be sure of our salvation.

a. We can be sure of our salvation if we **believe in Jesus Christ**. (Jn. 8:24; 20:30, 31).

b. We can be sure our salvation if we **repent of our sins**. (Lk. 13:3, 5; Acts 17:30).

1) Repentance is not a one time action, but repentance should occur as often as we sin.

2) We repent for forgiveness and because our foremost desire is to please God and live in a way that pleases Him.

c. We can be sure of salvation if we **confess our faith in Jesus**. (Matt. 10:32-33).

1) Confession of Christ is made when one initially accepts Christ. (Rom. 10:9, 10; Acts 8:37).

2) This is not a one time action, but it involves confessing Christ as long as one lives. (Mk. 8:38).

Mark 8:38 "For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will also be ashamed of him when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels."

3) The “whoever” applies to both believers and non-believers.

4) Christ will be ashamed of all [believers or unbelievers] who are ashamed of Him.

5) Christ will confess to the Father those who confess Him. (Matt. 10:32,33).

d. We can be sure of our salvation if we are **baptized for the remission of our sins**. (Acts 2:38).

Acts 2:38 Peter {said} to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

1) Baptism for non-scriptural reasons is not valid.

2) Baptism must be for the forgiveness of sins. (Acts 2:38).

3) Paul was not saved until he was baptized to have his sins washed away by the blood of Jesus. (Acts 22:16).

Acts 22:16 'Now why do you delay? Get up and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on His name.'

4) It is also through baptism that we put on Christ and become a part of His body. (Gal. 3:26,27; 1 Cor. 12:13).

e. We can be sure of our salvation if we **seek the kingdom of God first**. (Matt. 6:33).

1) God and His kingdom must be first in our lives.

2) We must love God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength. (Matt. 22:37-38).

Matt 22:37 And He said to him, " 'YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.'

Matt 22:38 "This is the great and foremost commandment.

f. We can be sure of our salvation if we **manifest love to others**. (1 Jn. 4:7, 20, 21).

1 John 4:7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

1 John 4:20 If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for the one who does not love his brother whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen.

1 John 4:21 And this commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also.

g. We can be sure of our salvation if we **work** as a manifestation of our faith and to please God. (Jas. 2:14-26).

James 2:14 What use is it, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but he has no works? Can that faith save him?

James 2:15 If a brother or sister is without clothing and in need of daily food,

James 2:16 and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and be filled," and yet you do not give them what is necessary for {their} body, what use is that?

James 2:17 Even so faith, if it has no works, is dead, {being} by itself.

James 2:18 But someone may {well} say, "You have faith and I have works; show me your faith without the works, and I will show you my faith by my works."

James 2:19 You believe that God is one. You do well; the demons also believe, and shudder.

James 2:20 But are you willing to recognize, you foolish fellow, that faith without works is useless?

James 2:21 Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up Isaac his son on the altar?

James 2:22 You see that faith was working with his works, and as a result of the works, faith was perfected;

James 2:23 and the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "AND ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD, AND IT WAS RECKONED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS," and he was called the friend of God.

James 2:24 You see that a man is justified by works and not by faith alone.

James 2:25 In the same way, was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out by another way?

James 2:26 For just as the body without {the} spirit is dead, so also faith without works is dead.

1) Faith without works of faith is vain and dead. (Jas. 2:24, 26).

2) James is not speaking of works of merit.

3) He is stressing a Christian must have an active, trusting, obedient faith, but such faith cannot earn salvation.

4) Paul used the word "faith" with this meaning in his writings. (Rom. 1:5; 16:26; Gal. 5:6).

Rom 1:5 through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about {the} obedience of faith among all the

Gentiles for His name's sake,

Rom 16:26 but now is manifested, and by the Scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the eternal God, has been made known to all the nations, {leading} to obedience of faith;

Gal 5:6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything, but faith working through love.

Note:

1. Paul emphasized in the letter to the Romans that Abraham was saved on the basis of faith meaning that circumcision or any other action earned salvation. He was not saved by the works of the law of Moses that came long after He believed that his descendants would be as the stars of heaven. (Rom. 4:3; Gen. 15:1-6).
2. He did not mean that Abraham would have been saved if after believing the promise of God he refused to honor and serve God.
3. Abraham did not earned salvation, but he was saved because he had a trusting, active, obedient faith.
4. God bestows His grace on those who trust and obey Him.
5. James viewed Genesis 15:6 as a prophecy that was “fulfilled” when Abraham was willing to offer as a sacrifice his son Isaac.
5. He was not teaching Abraham earned his salvation by being willing to offer up his son as a sacrifice, but was affirming God’s grace is only bestowed on those who have an active faith.

h. We can be sure of our salvation if we **study the word**. (2 Tim. 2:15; 1 Pet. 2:2).

1) God’s word is “the” truth - not “a” truth. (Jn. 17:17; 8:32).

2) It is our infallible and complete guide. (Psa. 119:105).

3) It is inspired and equips us with every good work. (2 Tim. 3:16,17).

4) It is by studying God’s word that we learn about God and how to have salvation

5) Apart from the Bible no one would know what God is like and how to please Him.

i. We can be sure of our salvation if we add **the Christian graces**. (2 Pet. 1:5-11).

2 Pet 1:5 Now for this very reason also, applying all diligence, in your faith supply moral excellence, and in {your} moral excellence, knowledge,

2 Pet 1:6 and in {your} knowledge, self-control, and in {your} self-control, perseverance, and in {your} perseverance, godliness,

2 Pet 1:7 and in {your} godliness, brotherly kindness, and in {your} brotherly kindness, love.

2 Pet 1:8 For if these {qualities} are yours and are increasing, they render you neither useless nor unfruitful in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Pet 1:9 For he who lacks these {qualities} is blind {or} short-sighted, having forgotten {his} purification from his former sins.

2 Pet 1:10 Therefore, brethren, be all the more diligent to make certain about His calling and choosing you; for as long as you practice these things, you will never stumble;

2 Pet 1:11 for in this way the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be abundantly

supplied to you.

- 1) Note the one who adds the Christian graces “will never stumble,” that is, be lost.
- 2) Adding the Christian graces does not mean the Christian will never sin. (1 Jn. 1:8, 10).
- 3) It means those who practice the Christian graces will not be lost assuming they obey 1 John 1:7,9.
- 4) The idea we will barely squeeze into heaven is a false doctrine. (1 Pet. 4:17,18).

1 Pet 4:17 For {it is} time for judgment to begin with the household of God; and if {it} {begins} with us first, what {will be} the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God?

1 Pet 4:18 AND IF IT IS WITH DIFFICULTY THAT THE RIGHTEOUS IS SAVED, WHAT WILL BECOME OF THE GODLESS MAN AND THE SINNER?

- Peter is not speaking of salvation of the soul in this passage.
 - He is emphasizing that if the righteous were saved without difficulty from the approaching persecution that the wicked who rejected the gospel would not be protected by God.
 - Furthermore, the words “abundantly supplied to you” refute the idea of barely squeezing into heaven. (2 Pet. 1:11).
- j. We can be sure of our salvation if we do not practice “the deeds [works] of the flesh” and we manifest “the fruit of the Spirit.” (Gal. 5:19-23).

Gal 5:19 Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality,

Gal 5:20 idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions,

Gal 5:21 envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Gal 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

Gal 5:23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

- 1) The word “practice” is very significant and means no one who practices “the deeds of the flesh” will “inherit the kingdom of God.”
- 2) The words “those who practice” come from the present tense of the Greek “prasso” [**prah** soh]. It denotes continuous action.
- 3) Christians can be confident of salvation as long as they do not practice “the works of the flesh” and constantly strive to walk by the Spirit seeking to please God in relationship with Jesus Christ. (Gal. 5:16).

Gal 5:16 But I say, walk [live] by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.

- 4) Christians may commit one or more of these sins, but they can be forgiven assuming they genuinely repent.
- 5) Christians must pursue “the fruit of the Spirit” and practice the nine qualities Paul lists as the Spirit’s fruit.
- 6) We may never perfect these qualities in our lives, but we should constantly strive to manifest and grow in these qualities as long as we live.
- 7) We must not major in just one or two of these qualities, but must seek to demonstrate all of them.

8) Collectively these nine qualities are “the fruit of the Spirit.” Note “fruit” is singular.

k. We can be sure of our salvation if we daily **confess our sins to Jesus and humbly depend on His blood to wash our sins away.** (1 Jn. 1:9).

1) Some say “God knows my heart and I do not need to confess sins.”

2) It is true God knows everything, but He still expects us to turn from our sins and confess them..

3) God knows our every need (Matt. 6:8), but He still expects us to ask. (Matt. 7:7-11; 1 Jn. 5:14; Jas. 4:2,3).

l. We can be sure of our salvation by trusting God will protect and strengthen us if we keep submitting to Him.

1) We should never dismiss the promises of help and security God has made. (Jn. 10:27-29; Rom. 8:31-38; Heb. 13:5; Jas. 4:7).

2) God will always be faithful to us and will protect us if we draw near to Him. (Jas. 4:8).

3) God will not force us to serve Him or keep serving Him.

4) He will not force us to flee the devil who wants to destroy us. (Jas. 4:7).

5) The devil is a constant threat of Christians who wants to spiritually devour them. (1 Pet. 5:8).

1 Pet 5:8 Be of sober {spirit,} be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

m. Those who do these things can sing the words of the beloved hymn “Blessed Assurance.”

“Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! Oh what a foretaste of glory divine! Heir of salvation, purchase of God; Born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.	Perfect submission, all is at rest, I in my Savior am happy and blest; Watching and waiting, looking above, Filled with his goodness, lost in his love.”
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n. The Christian, walking by the Spirit, can confidently exclaim the words of Paul. (2 Tim. 1:12).

2 Tim 1:12 For this reason I also suffer these things, but I am not ashamed; for I know whom I have believed and I am convinced that He is able to guard what I have entrusted to Him until that day.

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