

ETERNAL SECURITY! Ch. #3

JOHN 10:27

**“My sheep
hear My
voice, and
I know them,
and they
follow Me.**



What's The Big Deal About Eternal Security?



➤ “The only thing better than **knowing** your saved, is having the **assurance** of salvation, because you **know** you can **NEVER LOOSE IT!**”

➤ This Doctrine is **VITAL** to **All Believers.**

1. **YOUR SPIRITUAL HEALTH.**

“There is a peace that won’t let your emotions ride the roller coaster.”

2. **YOUR PRODUCTIVITY.**

“If your confident of your future, you can concentrate on the present.”

3. **YOUR WITNESS.**

“If God is able to save you, He is certainly capable of sustaining you.”

GOD'S SOVEREIGN PREDESTINATION!

➤ WE ARE PREDESTINED TO BE LIKE JESUS.

Notice: (Rom. 8:29-30) *“For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren; (30) and these whom He PREDESTINED, He also CALLED; and these whom He called, He also JUSTIFIED; and these whom He justified, He also GLORIFIED.”*

➤ If you are **GENUINELY** saved, then you are **ETERNALLY** saved. These two verses are perhaps the most explicit, and clearest presentation of this truth in all of God's word. Let's break this verse down for an easier understanding. So, what's the purpose of salvation anyway?

I. TO CONFORM BELIEVERS TO CHRIST. (Rom. 8:29)

“To become conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the first-born among many brethren.” God will complete the salvation of every sinner who is **converted to Christ**. Notice what Paul said in (Rom. 8:1) *“Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.”* Verse (9) says that God's Holy Spirit indwells every believer. Every believer is already, in this life, an adopted child of God (vv. 14-16), those children are therefore *“heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ”* (v.17) and that *“the Spirit also helps our weakness” and intercedes for the saints according to the will of God* (vv. 26-27)

- **When we go to *GLORY*, we're going to receive a *GLORIOUS BODY*.**
It will work in the same environment and according to the same principles as does the resurrected glorified body of the Lord Jesus Christ. But I think it's even more than that. I think we're not only going to be like Him in whatever that glorified body is, but I think we're going to be like Him in the spiritual dimension as well. We will be *outwardly* perfect, and we will be *inwardly* perfect.
- **Residing in us will be the very *HOLINESS* of Jesus Christ.**
The divine, incorruptible nature given to us at the moment of salvation will be freed from the hindrance of the humanness which we now possess, and we'll be liberated, as it says in this chapter, *"unto the glorious liberation of the children of God"*. We will be delivered from the bondage of corruption, back in (v. 21), and so we will have an outward *appearance* like that of Jesus Christ, and an inward *holiness* like that of Jesus Christ.
- **Notice: (1 Cor. 15:49) "*As we have born the image of the earthly (or the earthy), we shall also bear the image of the heavenly,*"** We *are like* the earthy. We *will be like* the heavenly. **THAT'S HIS PURPOSE, TO MAKE US LIKE HIS SON.**
- **Notice: (Heb. 2:10) "*For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things, and through whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to perfect the author of their salvation through sufferings.*"**

II. TO MAKE CHRIST PREEMINENT. (8:29)

“That He might be the (prōtotokos) first born among many brethren.” In the Jewish culture obviously, the firstborn was the one who inherited everything. The firstborn was the one that was elevated. The firstborn was the one that uniquely represented the dignity of the family and carried the name. He was the supreme one, the **preeminent** one, and that's exactly what it's saying here. The reason we've all been saved is to make us like Christ, and the reason God wants to make us like Christ is so that there will be a whole redeemed and glorified humanity over which He will be the supreme one. That's what it's saying. That is the purpose.

- YOUR SALVATION DOESN'T END WITH YOU. Your salvation could be explained another way
Notice: (Phil. 2:9) “God has highly exalted Him and given Him a name which is above every name that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow.” You see what God wants to do is to bring into glory, to bring into heaven, to bring into eternity a redeemed humanity who will spend all of that eternity giving glory to the one who stands above and beyond them all, the **prōtotokos** (first born), **THE PREEMINENT CHRIST.**
- **Notice: (Col. 1:18) “And He's the head of the body, the church. Who is the beginning, the prōtotokos from the dead that in all things HE MIGHT HAVE THE PREEMINENCE.”**

- Why did God create us in the first place? Tough question. He created us for **HIS GLORY**. He created us so that there would be a group of people who would give Him the glory due His name. Now you understand why you're saved? It isn't just to keep you out of hell. That's a nice by-product. It isn't just to make you happy here and now. ***You've been redeemed to be made like Christ so that you can be a part of a redeemed eternal community who will give to the preeminent one the glory due His name.***

1. **FOREKNOWLEDGE**: (Rom. 8:29) ***"For whom He foreknew."***

Yes, God is able to look into the future and beyond. His foreknowledge is not a reference to his omniscient **"FORESIGHT,"** but to His **"FOREORDINATION"** (1 Pet. 1:1-2). He not only sees faith in advance but ordains it in advance. God foresees faith, He foresees who is going to believe, **BUT THE FAITH THAT HE FORESEES IS THE FAITH THAT HE HIMSELF CREATES.**

- **Notice what Jesus said:** (Jn. 6:44), ***"No man comes unto me except the Father draw him. All that the Father gives to Me shall come to Me."*** We're born again not of the will of men, but of the will of God. It is not of ourselves, ***"it is a gift of God, not of works lest any man should boast,"*** (Eph. 2:8-9). The Bible is very clear on this.

- **THIS IS ILLUSTRATED IN:** (Acts. 13:48) *"And when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and glorified the word of the Lord."* They heard Paul and Barnabas preaching, and listen, *"As many as were ordained to eternal life believed."* What were they ordained to? **ETERNAL LIFE**. You can't have a salvation that doesn't end in eternal life. You can't have a salvation that doesn't ultimately end in glory. You can't have a salvation that doesn't ultimately end in the person being conformed to the image of Jesus Christ, a part of a redeemed humanity for the purpose of exalting the One who is over and above them. **THE REASON THEY BELIEVED WAS BECAUSE THEY WERE ORDAINED TO THAT.**

2. **PREDESTINATION**: So, it starts with foreknowledge; it moves to predestination. Back to **Romans 8** again: *"For whom He did foreknow,"* verse **29**, *"He also did PREDESTINATE."* And then verse **30** picks it up: *"Moreover whom He did PREDESTINATE."* So **twice** it says He predestinated. He did predestinate, *proorizō*. It's the word horizon with a prefixed pronoun. It means to **appoint before, to mark out before**. It's really the word to predestine, to predetermine. There's really no argument at that point, predestination, **PREDETERMINING DESTINY**.

- In fact, it is also used in (Acts. 4:28) where it talks again about the death of Christ and it says that *“For truly in this city there were gathered together against Your holy servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, (28) to do whatever Your hand and Your purpose PREDESTINED to occur.”*
- Notice also: (Acts. 2:23) *“This Man, delivered over by the PREDETERMINED PLAN AND FOREKNOWLEDGE OF GOD, you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put Him to death.”*
- So, the word **“PREDESTINED”** along with the word **“FOREKNOWLEDGE,”** both of them are used to speak of the **CRUCIFIXION OF CHRIST** and if we're going to say then that **“foreknowledge”** simply means that God looks down history and sees what's going to happen and just responds to what **we decide**, then God did the same thing with Christ. He just looked down history, saw what Jesus, on his own prerogative was going to do, and reacted to it. **Absolutely heretical**, and if **“foreknowledge”** and **“predestination”** mean that God predetermined and planned the death of Christ for the redemption of man, and chose Christ to be the agent of redemption, then these words must mean in relation to us **THE SAME THING.**

- **HE CHOSE US, AND PREDETERMINED US TO BE THE REDEEMED.** Notice: (Eph. 1:4-5) *"just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love 5 He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will."*
- Notice: (Rev. 13:8) *"All who dwell on the earth will worship him, everyone whose name has not been written from the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who has been slain."* Notice also: (Rev. 17:8) Which says that our names were written in the Lamb's Book of Life **"BEFORE THE WORLD BEGAN."**

3. CALLING: *Foreknowledge, predestination.* The third word is *"calling."*

- Verse 30 says, *"Whom He predestined, He called."* **HE CALLED.** Now listen, here is where God's eternal plan intersects with your life. In eternity past He *predetermined* to have a love relationship with you; therefore, predestined your salvation. The calling is the time when God moves in your life. And now we come into time. We've been in eternity past, now we're in time. And this is the central truth. The first two preceded, the last two flow out of it.

- **WE ARE THE CALLED.** Verse 28 says that *“God is working all things together for them that love Him and them who are the called.”* This has reference not to an **outward** call but an **inward** call. It has reference to the work of God turning the heart, the heart that could **never turn** to Him, the heart that could **never know** Him, that could **never understand** the gospel, blind, dead, ignorant, all of those things, without God, without hope in the world.
- We know it must be a saving call because of where it's fitting here. It says, them He called...whom He called, them he also what? **JUSTIFIED**. So, all the people that were called were also what? **JUSTIFIED**; therefore, the calling must be an effectual call. It must be a successful call. It's not just a wild invitation to anybody and everybody. It is a call to salvation. And if God, in eternity past, predetermined the love relationship and foreordained our salvation then He has to bring it to pass in time, by moving into our life, right? **That's why I say you're not saved because of something you decided, as if you could decide it alone. YOU'RE SAVED BECAUSE OF SOMETHING GOD DECIDED A LONG TIME AGO.**

- God's saving call in time moves in. Well, what happens? God moves and begins to convict the heart, to draw the heart away from sin, to draw the heart toward the Savior. **Notice: (2 Tim. 1:9), “Who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity,”**
- This text says, “**HE has saved us.**” How? “**He has called us with an holy calling,**” listen to this, “**NOT according to our works.**” He didn't call us because of something we did, “**but according to His own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ before the world began.**” Now that's what it says. You were called to Christ, called to salvation to fulfill a purpose that was planned before the world began.
- Folk’s, this is why we are **ETERNALLY SECURE**, because we're not in some whimsical rollercoaster deal. The reason we are saved is to be saved unto glory, **TO BE LIKE CHRIST**, to be a part of a holy humanity that can **EXALT HIS GLORIOUS NAME**, and if that is the end and God began it before we were ever born, then God will bring it to pass and there will not be any fallout.
- And so, all the way along the line, all things are continually overruled **TO BE WORKING TOGETHER FOR OUR ULTIMATE GLORY**. This is a tremendous passage! **That's the promise.**

WHY CAN'T I WRAP MY **MIND** AROUND THIS?



- Some Things Still Belong To God. (Deut. 29:29) ***"The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but the things revealed belong to us and to our sons forever, that we may observe all the words of this law."***
- "There are some things about God that we will **NEVER UNDERSTAND.**"

LET'S START WITH **ADAM**.



- When **ADAM** was placed in the Garden of Eden, he was warned not to eat of the fruit of the tree of the “knowledge of good and evil” on the threat of immediate **SPIRITUAL DEATH**.
- Notice: (Gen. 2:16-17) *“The LORD God commanded the man, saying, “From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; (17) but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it **YOU WILL SURELY DIE.**”*
- When Adam disobeyed and ate of the forbidden fruit consequently, he brought **“SPIRITUAL DEATH”** upon himself and upon the race.
- 1. **WE INHERITED “SPIRITUAL DEATH.”** Adam’s offspring are **BORN** with sinful natures, they do not have the **ABILITY** to **CHOOSE** spiritual good over evil. As a result, man’s **WILL** is no longer free (i.e., **free from the dominion of sin**) as Adam’s **WILL** was free before the Fall. Instead, **MAN’S WILL** as the consequence of inherited depravity, is in bondage to his sinful nature.
- Notice:(Rom. 5:12) *“Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so **death spread to all men, because all sinned.**”*
- Notice: (Psa. 58:3) *“The wicked are estranged **from the womb**; These who speak lies go **astray from birth.**”*

Notice: (Eph. 2:1-3) *“And you were DEAD in your trespasses and sins, (2) in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience. (3) Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest.”*

2. WE INHERITED A DARKENED MIND, CORRUPT HEARTS, AND A DEFILED CONSCIENCE.

Notice: (Rom. 8:7-8) *“because the MIND set on the flesh is hostile toward God; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able to do so, (8) and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.”*

Notice: (1 Cor. 2;14) *“But a NATURAL MAN does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised.”*

Notice: (Gen. 6:5) *“Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.”*

Notice: (Jer. 17:9) *“The heart is more deceitful than all else And is desperately sick; Who can understand it?”*

- **Notice: (Gen. 8:21)** “.....for the intent of man’s **HEART IS EVIL** from his youth;.....”
- **Notice: (Eph. 4:17-19)** “So this I say, and affirm together with the Lord, that you walk no longer just as the Gentiles also walk, in the futility of their mind, **(18) being darkened in their understanding, excluded from the life of God** because of the ignorance that is in them, **because of the hardness of their heart;** **(19)** and they, having become callous, have given themselves over to sensuality for the practice of every kind of impurity with greediness”
- **Notice: (Tit. 1:15)** “To the pure, all things are pure; but to those who are defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure, but **both their (mind) and their (conscience) are defiled.**”
- **This is why Jesus said: (Jn. 3:5-7)** “Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. **(6)** “That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. **(7)** “Do not be amazed that I said to you, ‘**You must be born again.**’

3. OUR “FREE WILL” IS IN BONDAGE TO THE INFLUENCE OF SIN AND SATAN.

Before sinners are “**BORN AGAIN,**” they are children of the devil and under his control and influence, therefore making them slaves to sin.

Notice: (Jn. 8:44) “*You are of your father the Devil, and you want to carry out your father’s desires.* He was a murderer from the beginning and has not stood in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he tells a lie, he speaks from **HIS OWN NATURE**, because he is a liar and the father of liars.”

Notice: ((Eph. 2:1-2) “And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, (2) in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, *according to (or following) the prince of the power of the air*, of the spirit (**Anti-Christ**) that is now working in the sons of disobedience.

Notice: (2 Tim. 2:25-26) “with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition, *if perhaps God may grant them repentance* leading to the knowledge of the truth, (26) and they may come to their senses and *escape from the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will.*”

Notice: (1 Jn. 3:10) “ By this the children of God and the *children of the devil* are obvious: anyone who does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor the one who does not love his brother.”

Notice: (1 Jn. 5:19) “We know that we are of God, and that the whole world lies *in the power of the evil one.*”

4. THE WHOLE WORLD IS IN BONDAGE.

Notice: (Job. 14:4) **“Who can make the clean out of the unclean? NO ONE!”**

Notice: (Job. 19:14-16) **“What is man, that he should be pure, Or he who is born of a woman, that he should be righteous? 15 “Behold, He puts no trust in His holy ones, And the heavens are not pure in His sight; 16 How much less one who is detestable and corrupt, Man, who drinks iniquity like water!”**

Notice: (Jer. 13:23) **“Can the Ethiopian change his skin Or the leopard his spots? Then you also can do good Who are accustomed to doing evil.”**

Notice: (Psa. 143:2) **“And do not enter into judgment with Your servant, For in Your sight no man living is righteous.”**

Notice: (Prov. 20:9) **“Who can say, “I have cleansed my heart, I am pure from my sin”?”**

Notice: (Rom. 3:9-12) **“What then? Are we better than they? Not at all; for we have already charged that both Jews and Greeks are all under sin; (10) as it is written, “THERE IS NONE RIGHTEOUS, NOT EVEN ONE; (11) THERE IS NONE WHO UNDERSTANDS, THERE IS NONE WHO SEEKS FOR GOD; (12) ALL HAVE TURNED ASIDE, TOGETHER THEY HAVE BECOME USELESS; THERE IS NONE WHO DOES GOOD, THERE IS NOT EVEN ONE.”**

Notice: (1 Jn. 1:10) **“If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar and His word is not in us.”**

5. BY THE GRACE OF GOD, YOU WERE CHOSEN.

- **Notice: The O.T. “Israel.” (Deut. 10:15-16)** “Behold, to the LORD your God belong heaven and the highest heavens, the earth and all that is in it. (15) “Yet on your fathers did the LORD set His affection to love them, and HE CHOSE their descendants after them, **EVEN YOU ABOVE ALL PEOPLES, AS IT IS THIS DAY.**”
- **Notice: (Hag. 2:23)** “On that day,’ declares the LORD of hosts, ‘I will take you, Zerubbabel, son of Shealtiel, My servant,’ declares the LORD, ‘and I will make you like a signet ring, for **I HAVE CHOSEN YOU,**’ ” declares the LORD of hosts.”
- **Notice: The N.T. “Bride of Christ.” (Matt. 11:27)** “All things have been handed over to Me by My Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father; nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and **ANYONE TO WHOM THE SON WILLS TO REVEAL HIM.**”
- **Notice: (Matt. 22:14)** “For many are called, **BUT FEW ARE CHOSEN.**”

- **Notice: (Lk. 18:7)** “now, will not God bring about justice for **His elect** who cry to Him day and night, and will He delay long over them?”
- **Notice: (Col. 3:12)** “So, as those **who have been chosen of God**, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience;”
- **Notice: (1 Pet. 2:8-9)** “**But you are A CHOSEN RACE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR God’s OWN POSSESSION**, so that you may proclaim the excellences of Him **who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light**;
- **Notice: What God says about His APPLE, and BRIDE. (Rom. 11:28)** “From the standpoint of the gospel they are enemies for your sake, **but from the standpoint of God’s choice** they are beloved for the sake of the fathers;”
- **Notice: The “TRIBULATION SAINTS.” (Rev. 17:14)** “These will wage war against the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, because He is Lord of lords and King of kings, and **those who are with Him are the CALLED AND CHOSEN AND FAITHFUL.**”

- **Notice (Eph. 1-14)** The Bible says, ***“He set his love on us and chose us before the foundation of the world.”*** From **vs. 3** when the process of our salvation begins **to vs. 14** when it is over, God is the one taking all the action!
 - This is one, long **202-word sentence**. The sentence has **48 pronouns**: **30** of them belong to God. There are **24 verbs**, or action sequences in it: God does **20** of them, and only **4** of them we do.
- Vs. 3, GOD** blesses; **Vs. 4, HE** chooses.
- Vs. 5, HE** predestines and adopts **Vs. 6, HE** bestows grace;
- Vs. 7, HE** redeems and forgives; **Vs. 8, HE** lavishes;
- Vs. 9, HE** makes known and **HE** purposes; **Vs. 10, HE** unites together in Christ;
- Vs. 11, HE** works; **Vs. 13, HE** seals.
- **LISTEN TO THE 4 THAT WE DO**: we **listen**; we **receive**; we **believe**; and we **hope**. Isn't that beautiful?
 - **You may be thinking: “What part of salvation are we responsible for?”** **WE DID ALL THE SINNING. JESUS DID ALL THE SAVING.**