

"Inheriting the Promises!" 2021 Summer Series at the Village Church

#8- "Kept in His Almighty Hands!" John 10: 28- "I give them eternal life and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand!" The Doctrine of Eternal Security

Introduction: IL- Security Exchange Bank in Marietta, Georgia went bankrupt in 2012 and its assets were purchased by another banking firm. Since 2012 there have been 511 other failed banks! Our eternal security as believers is not based on a bank or the FDIC but on God and His Word! I am absolutely convinced that once a person is saved, they are saved forever, and I want to show you why I am convinced of that glorious doctrine!

Once you're saved you are always saved, and the evidence is clear in three ways:

1. The character and commitment of God- Our text this morning contains this wonderful promise from Jesus Himself- "I give them eternal life and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of My hand!" Eternal security is focused on God's character and His commitment to honor this promise! Salvation is initiated by God, and He won't go back on His word or change His mind. Malachi 3: 6- For I, the LORD do not change! God's love is eternal and the only salvation He offers is also eternal! "Given..." Romans 8: 1- There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. We are kept by His powerful hand! He will never cast us out! John 6: 35-40- Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst. ³⁶ But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. ³⁷ All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me **I will never cast out.** ³⁸ For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me. ³⁹ And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. ⁴⁰ For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day." We are forgiven of ALL sin already!- 1 John 1: 9- If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from **all** unrighteousness. **IL-** Author Loraine Boettner- "Since it took a supernatural act to bring us into a state of spiritual life, it would take another such act to take us out of that state." There is only one spiritual birth. God promises to never leave us! Hebrews 13: 5- Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." Titus 1: 1, 2- Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the sake of the faith of God's elect and their knowledge of the truth, which accords with godliness, ² in hope of eternal life, which God, who never lies, promised before the ages began. We are saved because of God's sovereign purpose, His infinite power and His undying love. John 17: 11- And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. We are sealed by the Holy Spirit- Ephesians 4: 30- And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. God's grace is enough to save and keep us saved!

2. The context and certainty of Scripture- The Bible, understood in its context, with certainty supports the view that once we are saved, we are always saved! Here are just a few key verses: John 5: 24- Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life. 1 Corinthians 1: 7-9- ⁷ So that you are not lacking in any gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁸ who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. 2

Corinthians 1: 21-22-And it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has anointed us, ²² and who has also put his seal on us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee. 2 Corinthians 5: 5- He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee. Philippians 1: 6- And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. 2 Timothy 1: 12- But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that he is able to guard until that day what has been entrusted to me. Jude 24- Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy. These verses make it clear that salvation is a free gift based on Christ's righteousness, not our own. They also demonstrate that salvation and security go together, not salvation plus a good track record! **IL-** Arthur W. Pink- "Quite impossible it is for a sheep to become a goat, for a man who has been born again to be unborn."

3. The celebration and consecration of true believers- Born again again? No! There was nothing we did to earn salvation- it was all of grace. There is nothing we do to keep our salvation- that too is all of grace! If God could die we could lose our salvation, or if the Bible could become extinct. Since we made no personal contribution to getting saved, we do not have to make a certain amount of contribution to stay in God's family! Our salvation is a gift- not both a gift to receive and a status to achieve! Our joy is to do all we can to thank God for His wonderful gift! 2 Timothy 2: 15- Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved,^(a) a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth. Romans 6: 1- What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? 1 John 2: 1-2- My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. ²He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world. Self-righteousness cannot save us or keep us saved! 1 John 5: 13- I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may **know** that you have eternal life. A fair question is this two-part one: Which sins can take away our part in the family of God? OR How many sins can do that? Understanding grace makes us more thankful than ever for eternal life and the power to please our Savior! A true believer is not going to deny Christ but is going to dedicate their life to serving God! **IL-** Major Ian Thomas of Torchbearers International once wrote- "If you are born again, eternal life is that quality of life that you possess right NOW!" Romans 5: 1-5- Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we^(a) have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. ²Through him we have also obtained access by faith^(b) into this grace in which we stand, and we^(c) rejoice^(d) in hope of the glory of God. ³Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. 1 Peter 1: 3-5- Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

Conclusion: IL- David Jeremiah- "Don't let obstacles along the road to eternity shake your confidence in God's promise. The Holy Spirit is God's seal that you WILL arrive!"

Closing Song: "Take My Life- I Am Yours"