

Perseverance of the saved

1.19.22

Review:

“The Order of Salvation” WG

1. Election (God’s choice of people to be saved)
2. The gospel call (proclaiming the message of the gospel)
3. Regeneration (being born again)
4. Conversion (faith and repentance)
5. Justification (right legal standing)
6. Adoption (membership in God’s family)
7. Sanctification (right conduct of life)
8. Perseverance (remaining a Christian)
9. Death (going to be with the Lord)
10. Glorification (receiving a resurrection body)

I. What is the doctrine of perseverance of the saints?

"The perseverance of the saints means that all those who are truly born again will be kept by God’s power and will persevere as Christians until the end of their lives, and that only those who persevere until the end have been truly born again." Wayne Grudem

A. True Believers have assurance

The perseverance of the saints means that all those who are truly born again will be kept by God’s power

1. We have a guarantee that we ARE SAVED FOREVER!

John 6:38-40 For I have come down from heaven to do the will of God who sent me, not to do my own will. ³⁹ And this is the will of God, that I should not lose even one of all those he has given me, but that I should raise them up at the last day. ⁴⁰ For it is my Father’s will that all who see his Son and believe in him should have eternal life. I will raise them up at the last day."

John 10:27-29 My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one can snatch them away from me, ²⁹ for my Father has given them to me, and he is more powerful than anyone else. ³⁰ No one can snatch them from the Father’s hand.

Romans 8:30 And having chosen them, he called them to come to him. And having called them, he gave them right standing with himself. And having given them right standing, he gave them his glory.

Ephesians 1:13-14 And now you Gentiles have also heard the truth, the Good News that God saves you. And when you believed in Christ, he identified you as his own^a by giving you the Holy Spirit, whom he promised long ago. ¹⁴The Spirit is God's guarantee that he will give us the inheritance he promised and that he has purchased us to be his own people. He did this so we would praise and glorify him.

I Peter 1:5 And through your faith, God is protecting you by his power until you receive this salvation, which is ready to be revealed on the last day for all to see.

B. True believers will persevere until death in their faith

and will persevere as Christians until the end of their lives, and that only those who persevere until the end have been truly born again.

1. If we are saved....we will continue to be saved. BUT we will live saved until the end!

John 8:31-32 Jesus said to the people who believed in him, "You are truly my disciples if you remain faithful to my teachings. ³² And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

Matthew 10:22 And all nations will hate you because you are my followers.^[a] But everyone who endures to the end will be saved.

Col 1:22-23 Yet now he has reconciled you to himself through the death of Christ in his physical body. As a result, he has brought you into his own presence, and you are holy and blameless as you stand before him without a single fault.

²³ But you must continue to believe this truth and stand firmly in it. Don't drift away from the assurance you received when you heard the Good News. The Good News has been preached all over the world, and I, Paul, have been appointed as God's servant to proclaim it.

Heb 3:14 For if we are faithful to the end, trusting God just as firmly as when we first believed, we will share in all that belongs to Christ.

I John 2:19 These people left our churches, but they never really belonged with us; otherwise they would have stayed with us. When they left, it proved that they did not belong with us.

C. Concerns/arguments for and against eternal security of those who are true believers

1. Not all "church people" are believers.

Gal 2:4 Even that question came up only because of some so-called believers there—false ones, really^[a]—who were secretly brought in. They sneaked in to spy on us and take away the freedom we have in Christ Jesus. They wanted to enslave us and force us to follow their Jewish regulations.

II Cor 11:26 I have traveled on many long journeys. I have faced danger from rivers and from robbers. I have faced danger from my own people, the Jews, as well as from the Gentiles. I have faced danger in the cities, in the deserts, and on the seas. And I have faced danger from men who claim to be believers but are not.^[a]

Matt 7:21-23 "Not everyone who calls out to me, 'Lord! Lord!' will enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Only those who actually do the will of my Father in heaven will enter. ²² On judgment day many will say to me, 'Lord! Lord! We prophesied in your name and cast out demons in your name and performed many miracles in your name.' ²³ But I will reply, 'I never knew you. Get away from me, you who break God's laws.'

2. Praying the "prayer" does not mean we are saved if we do not show evidence

Mark 4:5-6 Other seed fell on shallow soil with underlying rock. The seed sprouted quickly because the soil was shallow. ⁶ But the plant soon wilted under the hot sun, and since it didn't have deep roots, it died.

3. Connected to Jesus does not mean converted

John 15:1-7

15 "I am the true grapevine, and my Father is the gardener. **2** He cuts off every branch of mine that doesn't produce fruit, and he prunes the branches that do bear fruit so they will produce even more. **3** You have already been pruned and purified by the message I have given you. **4** Remain in me, and I will remain in you. For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful unless you remain in me.

5 "Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing. **6** Anyone who does not remain in me is thrown away like a useless branch and withers. Such branches are gathered into a pile to be burned. **7** But if you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask for anything you want, and it will be granted!

4. Understanding but not embracing does not mean converted/ Tasting does not swallowing

Hebrews 6:4-6 For it is impossible to bring back to repentance those who were once enlightened—those who have experienced the good things of heaven and shared in the Holy Spirit, **5** who have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the power of the age to come—**6** and who then turn away from God. It is impossible to bring such people back to repentance; by rejecting the Son of God, they themselves are nailing him to the cross once again and holding him up to public shame.

Matt 27:34 The soldiers gave Jesus wine mixed with bitter gall, but when he had tasted it, he refused to drink it.

D. The "but what about" verses?

1. **Heb 10:26-31** Dear friends, if we deliberately continue sinning after we have received knowledge of the truth, there is no longer any sacrifice that will cover these sins. **27** There is only the terrible expectation of God's judgment and the raging fire that will consume his enemies. **28** For anyone who refused to obey the law of Moses was put to death without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. **29** Just think how much worse the punishment will be for those who have trampled on the Son of God, and have treated the blood of the covenant, which made us holy, as if it were common and unholy, and have insulted and disdained the Holy Spirit who brings God's mercy to us.**30** For we know the one who said,

"I will take revenge.
I will pay them back."[Ⓜ]

He also said,

"The LORD will judge his own people."[Ⓜ]

31 It is a terrible thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

2. **Rev 3:5** All who are victorious will be clothed in white. I will never erase their names from the Book of Life, but I will announce before my Father and his angels that they are mine.

3. **I Samuel 16:14** Now the Spirit of the LORD had left Saul, and the LORD sent a tormenting spirit[Ⓜ] that filled him with [depression](#) and fear.

E. Is there any way to know if we are saved especially if we are doubting?

II Cor 5:17 This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

1. Am I currently trusting Jesus for my salvation?

Col 1:23 But you must continue to believe this truth and stand firmly in it. Don't drift away from the assurance you received when you heard the Good News. The Good News has been preached all over the world, and I, Paul, have been appointed as God's servant to proclaim it.

John 3:16 "For this is how God loved the world: He gave^e his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.

2. Do I see evidence that Jesus is changing me now?

Gal 5:22 But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

James 2:17-18 So you see, faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless.

¹⁸Now someone may argue, "Some people have faith; others have good deeds." But I say, "How can you show me your faith if you don't have good deeds? I will show you my faith by my good deeds."

II Peter 1:5-7 In view of all this, make every effort to respond to God's promises. Supplement your faith with a generous provision of moral excellence, and moral excellence with knowledge, ⁶and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with patient endurance, and patient endurance with godliness, ⁷and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love for everyone.

3. Do I see I am loving/caring/tending to people more and more in my life?

II Peter 1:7 and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love for everyone.

JOHN 13:35 Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples."

4. Do I see a desire to correct areas in my life that are not pleasing to the Father?

I John 2:4 If someone claims, "I know God," but doesn't obey God's commandments, that person is a liar and is not living in the truth.