

MISLED
Can I Lose My Salvation?
Chapter 7
10.8.25

CAN I BE SAVED AND NOT BE A DISCIPLE?

I. FALSE ASSURANCE

But as dangerous as it is for genuine believers to question their salvation, it's equally, if not more dangerous, for professing Christians to be assured of their salvation when they really aren't saved.

In his book, *The Cost of Discipleship*, theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer described this as "cheap grace." Genuine believers are secure in their salvation, but there is a danger for those who profess to be saved but aren't.

On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, didn't we prophesy in your name, drive out demons in your name, and do many miracles in your name?' ²³ Then I will announce to them, 'I never knew you. **Depart from me, you lawbreakers!** Matthew 7:22-23

II. WHAT IS CHEAP GRACE AND HOW DOES THIS HAPPEN?

Cheap grace is the deadly enemy of our church . . . (It is) grace without price; grace without cost.

A. The Church has No Discipleship Plan

Jesus came near and said to them, "All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Matthew 28:18-20

B. People Are Confused About What a Disciple Is

What exactly is a disciple?

Now great crowds were traveling with him. So he turned and said to them, ²⁶ “If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, and even his own life—he cannot be my disciple. Luke 14:25-26

“If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, and even his own life—he cannot be my disciple. ²⁷ Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸ “For which of you, wanting to build a tower, doesn’t first sit down and calculate the cost to see if he has enough to complete it? ²⁹ Otherwise, after he has laid the foundation and cannot finish it, all the onlookers will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰ saying, ‘This man started to build and wasn’t able to finish.’ Luke 14:26-30

1. *Allegiance Over Apathy*
2. *Sacrifice Over Self-Centeredness*
3. *Pain Over Pleasure*
4. *Relationship Over Religion*
5. *Commitment Over Convenience*
6. *Faithfulness Over Fickleness*

C. No One Challenges Them in Holiness

It takes courage to even mention sin these days.

We don’t want to offend people.
We don’t want to sound intolerant.
We don’t want to sound judgmental.
We don’t want people to leave church upset.

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us. We observed his glory, the glory as the one and only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:14

III. CAN A PERSON GET SAVED AND NOT GROW?

- How will I know if I’m taking advantage of God’s grace?

- What if a Christian simply keeps sinning as much as they want to? Will they still go to heaven?
- Is it possible for a person to get saved and show very little fruit for the remainder of their life and still go to heaven?

A. The Unspiritual

But the person without the Spirit does not receive what comes from God's Spirit, because it is foolishness to him; he is not able to understand it since it is evaluated spiritually. 1 Corinthians 2:14

B. The Baby Christian

For my part, brothers and sisters, I was not able to speak to you as spiritual people but as people of the flesh, as babies in Christ. 1 Corinthians 3:1

C. The Carnal Christian

I gave you milk to drink, not solid food, since you were not yet ready for it. In fact, you are still not ready, ³ because you are still worldly. For since there is envy and strife among you, are you not worldly and behaving like mere humans? 1 Corinthians 3:2-3

D. The Spiritual

The spiritual person, however, can evaluate everything, and yet he himself cannot be evaluated by anyone. ¹⁶ For who has known the Lord's mind, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ. 1 Corinthians 2:15-16

IV. WHAT DOES A GENUINE CHRISTIAN LOOK LIKE?

A. Spiritual Growth

For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with goodness, goodness with knowledge, ⁶ knowledge with self-control, self-control with endurance, endurance with godliness, ⁷ godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. 2 Peter 1:5-7

For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being useless or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Peter 1:8

The person who lacks these things is blind and shortsighted and has forgotten the cleansing from his past sins. ¹⁰ Therefore, brothers and sisters, make every effort to confirm your calling and election, because if you do these things you will never stumble.

¹¹ For in this way, entry into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be richly provided for you. 2 Peter 1:9-11

B. Spiritual Disciplines

Like newborn infants, desire the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow up into your salvation, 1 Peter 2:2

C. Fellowship

Not neglecting to gather together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging each other, and all the more as you see the day approaching. Hebrews 10:25

For I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy, because I have promised you in marriage to one husband—to present a pure virgin to Christ. 2 Corinthians 11:2

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself for her ²⁶ to make her holy, cleansing her with the washing of water by the word. ²⁷ He did this to present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and blameless. Ephesians 5:25-27

D. Service

“A manifestation of the Spirit is given to each person for the common good:” 1 Corinthians 12:7

E. Turning from Worldly Things

Therefore, I say this and testify in the Lord: You should no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thoughts. Ephesians 4:17

F. Conviction, Confession, and Repentance

Extreme #1: Becoming Obsessed with Asking God for Forgiveness When We Sin

“You will never wash my feet,” Peter said.

Jesus replied, “If I don’t wash you, you have no part with me.”

⁹ Simon Peter said to him, “Lord, not only my feet, but also my hands and my head.”

¹⁰ “One who has bathed,” Jesus told him, “doesn’t need to wash anything except his feet, but he is completely clean. You are clean, but not all of you.” John 13:8-10

Extreme #2: Neglecting to Ask God for Forgiveness When We Sin

He made the one who did not know sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. 2 Corinthians 5:21

Therefore, with your minds ready for action, be sober-minded and set your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. ¹⁴ As obedient children, do not be conformed to the desires of your former ignorance. ¹⁵ But as the one who called you is holy, you also are to be holy in all your conduct; ¹⁶ for it is written, Be holy, because I am holy. 1 Peter 1:13-16

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9