

## We Believe

### What We Believe about Security

December 31, 2017 am

HDBC

This is part 8 in the series, **We Believe**. Looking at some of the more important things that we believe. Why we believe them. Remember . . . **Theology Matters**. This morning . . . **What we believe about the Security . . . Eternal Security**.

**Reaffirmation** of what we believe about the permanence of salvation.

Is it possible for me to lose my salvation?

Am I required to do certain things to keep my salvation?

Are there certain sins that would cause me to lose my salvation?

These are important questions and this is an important topic. This is one of the things that sets us apart from many other faith groups.

**First, let me tell you what it does not mean.**

It does not mean that every churchgoer or every church member is going to be saved. It does not mean that everyone who had made some kind of public profession of faith is going to be saved. It does not mean a person can claim to be saved, then choose to live a life ignoring the Lordship of Christ.

**That kind of language** is foreign to the Bible. A person who is truly saved will have his or her life radically altered by the Lord. The Bible also teaches the twin truth of the perseverance of believers. In other words, true believers will persevere until the end. Those who are really saved will not fall away.

**Here is what we believe . . .**

*All true born again believers will be kept by the grace of God until they are taken into Heaven at death or the second coming of Christ. The sustaining grace of God assures that no true believer can lose his or her salvation. True believers may fall into sin and grieve the Holy Spirit, injure kingdom witness and experience the disciplinary hand of God, but will be kept by the grace and power of God.*

**This is one of the most comforting** doctrines in all the word of God. Surprisingly it is overlooked or discounted by some of the major Christian denominations.

### **Ten Biblical Reasons to Know All Believers are Secure**

#### **1. Promise of Jesus (John 3:16, 5:24)**

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have **eternal life**.

Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has **eternal life**, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life.

**The very promise** made by Jesus is enough to cause me to believe in security. Key words in both verses are **eternal life**. The very word **eternal** means that which never ends. If it is at any time eternal, then it can at no time come to an end. The very meaning of the words teaches this truth.

***But has passed out of death and into life.***

The verb is in the perfect tense which implies a past action with present results. It literally says we have **crossed over** from death to life, never to return. This passage teaches the impossibility of being saved and then being unsaved.

**The very promise of Jesus to give eternal life . . .**

#### **2. The Hands of Jesus (John 10:27-29)**

My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; I give them eternal life, and they will never perish; and **no one will snatch them out of My hand**. 29 "My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and **no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand**.

He gives us **eternal life**, we will **never perish**, and no one can **snatch them out of His hand**. Phrase **never perish** is expressed in the strongest possible way to express a negative in that language. ***They will not by any possible means perish throughout eternity.***

I am watching my dad lose his memory and ability to think clearly. He is saying and doing things he would never have said or done. He may even forget who I am and who Jesus is. Does that put his salvation in jeopardy? No. He does not have to hold onto Christ. Christ is holding on to him.

### 3. The Prayers of Jesus (Luke 22:31-32, Hebrews 7:25)

Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you that he might sift you like wheat; but I have prayed for you, that your faith may not fail;

**Jesus is talking with Peter.** Satan wants to destroy you. But I have prayed for you not to fail. The word **fail** means to come to an end or to give out.

**Satan wants Peter to lose his faith.** Jesus' prayer will preserve Peter's faith. Peter did fail the Lord, but did not lose his faith. It was the prayer of Jesus that enabled Peter to feel remorse and to become repentant over his denials of Christ.

He is able also to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through Him, since **He always lives to make intercession for them.**

**Hebrews 7:25** reminds us that Jesus is still praying. He is at the Father's side interceding for us. His prayers for us also have a preserving effect on us. The O.T. priests could only serve for a time. They lived and died. But Jesus is a perpetual priest. And He is able to save completely and eternally.

If a saved person lost salvation, it would mean an unanswered prayer of Jesus.

### 4. The Work of Jesus (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.

**The one who began** the work of salvation in you will bring it to completion. Christ will not leave any work unfinished. He will see you through to salvation.

**Reminder** that salvation is the work of Christ. He is the one who saves. If it were our work, then we might leave it short, or fail to complete it. But it is His work.

## 5. The Spirit of Jesus (Ephesians 1:13-14)

In Him, you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation and believed in him, were **sealed** with the promise of the Holy Spirit, who is the **guarantee** of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

**When you were saved**, the Holy Spirit came to live in you. He became your permanent companion. Paul uses two pictures to help us understand what the presence of the Spirit means.

**First, the Seal.** Seal was used for three things: **authenticate as genuine, render secure, to denote ownership.** Proof that we belong to and are secure in Christ.

**Second, the Guarantee.** Legal term used of a deposit, down payment. Same word used in modern Greek for an engagement ring. Promise of more to come.

The Holy Spirit is our seal and pledge of eternal life. He is our permanent companion. He will ensure our salvation.

## 6. The Inheritance of Jesus (1 Peter 1:3-4)

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, 4 **to obtain an inheritance** that is imperishable, undefiled and unfading, kept in heaven for you,

**This is one** of the most eloquent passages in the NT which teaches the eternal security of the believer. We have become joint-heirs with Jesus Christ. We share in His inheritance. And notice the words which Peter uses to describe this inheritance.

**Imperishable** – Unable to be corrupted

**Undefiled** – *Without defect or flaw*

**Will not fade away** – Will not dry up or whither like the garland wreath crowns

**Reserved** – To take care of, guard and protect. No burglar and steal.

In other words we are a part of His family.

## 7. The Preservation of Jesus (1 Corinthians 1:7-8)

So that you are not lacking in any gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Once more we see that it is the responsibility of Christ to keep us saved, and Paul makes it clear that He will be able to do just that.

## 8. The Presence of Jesus (Matthew 28:20)

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, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and behold, **I am with you always**, even to the end of the age.

**Familiar passage** known as the Great Commission. In it Jesus promised to be with his disciples and with us even to the end of the age.

## 9. The Life of Jesus (Colossians 3:3-4)

For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

**Your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is our life . . .** Christ is our life. I live only because of His life. For me to perish or to die would mean He would perish and die. My life is woven into His and His into mine. He is my life, therefore I have assurance that I will live forever.

## 10. The Love of Jesus (Romans 8:35-39)

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.<sup>38</sup> For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers,<sup>39</sup> nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The classic passage about the love of Jesus and the assurance that nothing can separate us from His love. Because of His love he will keep us secure.