

Perseverance of the Saints

Definition: The perseverance of the saints means that all those who are truly born again will be _____ by God's power and will persevere as Christians until the _____ of their lives and that only those who persevere until the end have been truly born again.

1. All who are truly born again will persevere to the _____. ([John 3:36](#); [6:36-40](#); [10:27-29](#); [Romans 8:1](#); [Ephesians 1:13-14](#); [Philippians 1:6](#))

- Eternal life is a _____ that comes with salvation.
- There is no _____ for believers.
- The Holy Spirit is given as a _____ on believer's future inheritance.
- God's good work will be _____ at the Day of Jesus Christ.

2. Only those who persevere to the end have been truly born again. ([Matthew 10:22](#); [Colossians 1:22-23](#); [Hebrews 3:14](#); [1 John 2:19](#))

- There is a danger of a false _____.
- There is a danger of giving false _____.
- Falling away from the faith and fellowship is evidence of the _____ of saving faith.

3. Those who finally fall away may give many _____ signs of conversion. ([Matthew 7:21-23](#); [Mark 4:5-6](#); [Galatians 2:4](#); [2 Corinthians 11:26](#))

- A. Some who regularly _____ with the Church are not true believers.
- B. [John 15:1-7](#): The Vine and the Branches

4. How can I have assurance of my salvation? ([Colossians 1:23](#); [Hebrews 3:14](#))

- A. Do I have a present _____ in Christ for salvation?
- B. Is there current evidence of a _____ work of the Holy Spirit in my heart? ([Matthew 7:16-20](#); [Galatians 5:22-23](#); [1 John 2:4-6](#))
- C. Do I see a long-term pattern of _____ in my Christian life? ([1 Peter 1:5-8](#))

Discussion Questions

1. How does the Bible's teaching that eternal life is a present possession ([John 3:36](#); [Romans 8:1](#)) affect the way Christians live today?

2. How can we affirm perseverance without denying ongoing struggles with sin?

3. How should we understand passages that warn about falling away (e.g., [Matthew 10:22](#); [Hebrews 3:14](#))?
4. Why is the concept of a false profession of faith so sobering?
5. According to [1 John 2:19](#), what does falling away from the faith reveal about a person's spiritual condition?
6. Why is ongoing fruit in a believer's life evidence of regeneration rather than the basis of salvation?
7. How can this doctrine bring comfort to struggling believers while still calling the church to self-examination and perseverance?