

# The Eternal Security of the Believer

Bible Study, Newmarket, May 6, 2023

Readings:

John 10.27-30

Romans 5.1, 12-18

Romans 8.1, 29-39

Colossians 2.13-15

Part A: The Eternal Security of the Believer — the OBJECTIVE Truth to be Apprehended.  
Is it possible for a believer to lose their salvation?

Part B: The Assurance of Salvation — the SUBJECTIVE Appreciation of the Truth.  
Why do doubts sometimes arise in the mind of a believer?

## A: The Eternal Security of the Believer

1. The Realities to be understood:
  - a. Salvation: Our need and its nature: 1 Corinthians 1.18
  - b. Regeneration: A new life within: Colossians 2.13
  - c. Justification: A new position before God: Romans 5.1, 9
2. The Relationships into which we have been brought:
  - a. The Family of God: we have been adopted: Galatians 4.5
  - b. The Bride of Christ: we have been espoused: 2 Corinthians 11.2
  - c. The Body of Christ: we are members: Romans 12.4-5
3. The Representation of two federal heads:
  - a. Adam, Romans 5.12-18: Guilt before God is immense.
  - b. Christ, Romans 5.12-18: The gift of grace is irrevocable.
4. The Recognition of what grace does and does not do:
  - a. Grace is the basis of our salvation, excluding works: Romans 4.4, Ephesians 2.8
  - b. Grace is not a license to continue in sin: Romans 6.1, 14
5. The Roles played by the Godhead in Salvation:
  - a. The Father and His promise: Philippians 1.6
  - b. The Son and the price paid: Galatians 1.4
  - c. The Spirit and His presence: Ephesians 1.13-14
6. Our Representative in heaven, Jesus Christ:
  - a. He is our Great High Priest who intercedes for us: Hebrews 4.14-16
  - b. He is our Advocate with the Father: 1 John 2.2
7. The Realm into which we have been brought: John 10.28-29
  - a. The promise of eternal life: John 10.28-29
    - i. Its definition: John 17.3
    - ii. Its duration: John 11.26
  - b. God's eternal purposes: Romans 8.29-30
  - c. God's eternal protection: Romans 8.31-39
8. Our Resource on earth:
  - a. The Word of God: 1 John 5.13

## **B: The Assurance of Salvation**

1. The Causes of believers' doubts:
  - a. Mistakes regarding the doctrine of salvation and security:

“Bad doctrine leads to bewildering doubts.”

    - i. The completeness of forgiveness: Colossians 2.13  
All our sins were future when Christ died.
    - ii. The consummated work of Christ: John 19.30
    - iii. The confidence in self: Galatians 3.3
  - b. Misunderstood texts:
    - i. Warning passages in Hebrews, such as 6.4-8
    - ii. Persevering passages in Matthew 10.22, 24.14, Mark 13.13
    - iii. “If” passages, such as Colossians 1.21-23
  - c. Misdeeds:
    - i. How many sins are enough to make one lose his salvation?
    - ii. Which sins are serious enough to make one lose his salvation?
2. The Confusion about God:
  - a. The Judge: John 5.24
  - b. The Father: Luke 15.20  
Fellowship was broken; the relationship remained.  
Forensic treatment vs. familial treatment.
3. The Character of God:
  - a. He cannot lie: Titus 1.2
4. The Centre of attention:
  - a. The moment and the manner: My changing sentiments, or...
  - b. The Man: His consistent saviourhood
5. The Certainty we can enjoy:
  - a. The Stories that illustrate:
    - i. Genesis 7, Noah and the ark
    - ii. Exodus 12, the firstborn
  - b. The Sources that strengthen:
    - i. The witness of the Spirit: Romans 8.16, Galatians 4.6, 1 John 4.13
    - ii. The Word of God: 1 John 5.13  
The facts from Scripture produce faith in our hearts.
    - iii. The Work of Christ: 1 John 5.11  
We do not look to our own works to produce assurance.