

Proofs Concerning the Security of the Believer

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This doctrine may be considered one of the major doctrines of the Word of God. It is in harmony with every one of the fundamentals of the Christian faith, with all other doctrines.

Arguments to the contrary can be presented -- from human observation, human reasoning, misinterpreted Scriptures, and that the doctrine gives license to sin.

The importance of the doctrine is seen in that its denial is a denial of salvation by grace, thus teaching salvation by human merit and faithfulness (being good enough), and in reality becomes another gospel. (Galatians 1:6-9)

1. The Believer Has Everlasting Life. (John 3:15,16; 3:36)

"That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life, For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

"For he that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him."

All men have everlasting existence. The saved only have eternal life; the unsaved will enter into eternal death. (Revelation 20:14-15) All who are born again possess a life that cannot end. They receive, when they come to Christ for salvation, the very quality of life Christ has -- eternal life. This also means their names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life.

2. The Believer Will Not Come Into Condemnation. (John 5:24; Romans 8:32-36)

"Verily, Verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation, but is passed from death unto life."

"He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him freely give us all things? Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth."
(Romans 8:32-33)

How can the believer be condemned? He has passed from death unto life, and Christ states that he cannot be condemned. If he could be condemned then we would have to accept double jeopardy. Thus, Christ has paid for sin, (all of it) and yet the sinner who accepts Christ as Savior would still have to stand trial for his sin if we could be condemned.

Those who have put their trust in Christ for salvation can never come into condemnation for Christ bore that judgment for us. He put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself.

3. The Believer Shall Never Be Cast Out. (John 6:37, 40)

"All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.... And this is the will of him that sent me, that everyone which seeth the son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day."

All that the Father has given to Christ WILL COME to Him. And he who comes will under no circumstances ever be cast out. None whom the Father has given to the Son will be missing for Christ will raise them up at that last day. (John 6:37-40)

4. The Believer Shall Never Perish. (John 10:27-29)

"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me, and I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them to me is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand."

Only the sheep are eternally secure (vs. 26,27) and the sheep have eternal life right now and can never perish. The word "*ma*"n is an italicized word which is an added word in the King James text. It is "*none*" can pluck them out of His hand, not even we ourselves!

5. God Has Promised Never to Leave us. (Hebrews 13:5)

"..... for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee."

How can God the Father deny His own? He who gave His own Son will with Him freely give us all things.

6. God, Who Began a Work Will Complete it. (Philippians 1:6)

"Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ."

What God, the Father has begun in us He will continue until the day of Jesus Christ, that is until Christ comes, take us home to heaven and sets up His kingdom. In this promise God has given us we know He will continue to work in us as His children until He takes us home.

7. The Savior Prayed for Our Keeping. (John 17:9-17)

"I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine, (v. 9) ... Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are. (vs. 11) ... I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil." (v. 15)

To say that the prayers of Christ the Son of God would not be heard, or that the Father will not answer Christ's prayer would be a terrible thing to believe or think.

8. Christ Is Able To Save To the Ultimate. (Hebrews 7:25)

"Wherefore He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them."

Christ is able to save to the uttermost. This means that nothing can hinder His keeping power or destroy the sonship relationship that belongs to His child.

9. Believers Were Reconciled When They Were Enemies. (Romans 5:6-10)

"For when we were yet without strength in due time Christ died for the ungodly... God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. For if, when we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more then, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life." (Romans 5:6, 8-10)

Salvation was provided when we were helpless; vs. 6, when we were ungodly, vs. 6; when sinners, vs 8; and when we were enemies. vs. 10. Since He saved us when we were in this condition, can't He keep us saved now that we are His children? Is He able to bring His enemies to salvation, but not able to keep His children after they do come to Him? Surely these verses answer such questions.

10. There Is No Separation From God For The Believer. (Romans 8:32-39)

I won't print out this lengthy portion, but in reading it you will discover many strong statements and powerful questions. Who is going to condemn those whom God has acquitted? (v. 33)? NO ONE! Can sin condemn us? NO! Christ died to pay its penalty. The penalty has been removed through the sacrificial death of Christ on the cross for every believer. He is risen and keeps us saved. (v. 33). And no conceivable thing or experience can ever separate us from God. (vs. 35-39).

11. The Believer Is Sealed By the Holy Spirit. (II Cor. 1:22; Eph. 1:13; 4:30)

"And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption."

He seals us into the family of God. This sealing is an act of God that guarantees the safe delivery of every believer to heaven itself. Another proof of our being kept by God.

12. Believers Are Kept By the Power of God, and Will Be Presented Perfect.

(I Peter 1:4-5; Jude 24) *“Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed at the last time.” “Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy.”*

We are preserved and kept, (I Peter 1:4-5). The translation of this word carries with it the idea of a safe deposit box. Our safety depends upon God’s power and ability to keep us. Who can question that ability? Can He keep us? Does He want to keep us to see His glory--with great joy? Obviously, yes, He does and will keep the saint of God!

13. One May Be Without Rewards, Yet Be Saved. (I Corinthians 3:11-15)

It would be wise to read and ponder this portion of Scripture. There is only one foundation, Jesus Christ. (v. 11) All who are on this foundation are building. (v. 12) Every man’s building (or how he serves after he is saved) will be tested, *“of what sort it is.”* Some will receive rewards, others will suffer loss (v. 14, 15) Yet ALL who are on the foundation--the Lord Jesus Christ, will be saved.

14. A Believer Can Be Judged By God for His Sin, After Salvation, and Yet Be Saved. (I Corinthians 11:23-32)

In I Corinthians, God is setting forth His will in the ordinance of the Lord’s Supper. There we are warned not to partake unworthily or in an unworthy manner or we shall be guilty, (v. 27) and will bring damnation to ourselves. Is this speaking of losing one’s salvation? NO! If we could lose our salvation then ALL the former verses we have looked at would be false and God would be guilty of lying.

God’s Word explains what is involved by a close study of verses 30-32. Verse 30 states that *“for this cause many are weak, and sickly among you, and many sleep.”* The word **sleep** in the Greek means the death of a Christian. Then God goes on to state that we are to **judge ourselves**, and if we do we will not be judged. *“But when we are judged, we are **chastened** of the Lord, that we **should not be condemned** with the world.* It is very obvious God is stating that we are to judge ourselves about personal sin, and if we don’t then He is committed to chasten us, for He judges us that we will not be condemned with the world.

This is one of the strongest texts to prove the eternal security of the believer, for when we sin and don’t judge our sin (thus confessing, forsaking, etc.) God will bring chastening and His loving judgment that we will not be condemned with the world. This judgment can be so severe that God brings weakness, or illness in the life, and if we don’t break with our sin even premature death could take place. It is God’s mercy not to allow the sinning saint to continue to bring disgrace to himself and to God; He will take the person on to heaven.

15. God Chastens His Own As A Son Because He Loves Us. (Hebrews 12:5-11)

“.... My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: for whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth and scourgeth (the same Greek word as when Christ was scourged) every son whom he receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?”

God chastens us that we will not be condemned with the world. He chastens us that we might yield the peaceable fruit of righteousness (vs. 11). If any profess to be His child and do not receive His chastening, they were never His child. (vs. 8) As our fathers chastened us as it might have pleased them, He chastens us that we might be partakers of His holiness. (vs. 10)

All 15 of these points prove God’s keeping power and how He acts when as His child we commit sin. If we don’t judge our sin (I John 1:7, 9, 2:2), He will deal with us as a Father, not as a condemning judge who would banish us to hell. We are responsible to keep our fellowship with Him by confessing, forsaking sin, and judging sin in our lives. Fellowship can easily be broken but relationship in salvation is forever. Praise Him!