

1 CORINTHIANS: LESSON 5

The Doctrine of Eternal Security

21 July 2017

CONFIRMED UNTO THE END (1 Cor. 1:8)

“...Waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ: ⁸ Who shall also confirm you unto the end, that ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

The Problem: Many born again Christians believe that if they ever commit a sin, they'll lose their salvation.

The Cause: There are verses in the Bible that seem to teach that a Christian can lose their salvation. Those verses are either vague or unclear or else they belong to another dispensation and the believer has failed to rightly divide the word of truth (2 Tim. 2:15).

The Fundamental Rule of Bible Study: Never allow a difficult or an obscure passage to overrule a clear, easily understood passage.

Today we will examine the very clear Bible passages that teach the doctrine of eternal security.

The Church at Corinth proves to us that a believer doesn't have to be perfectly sinless to be counted as saints who are sanctified in Christ Jesus (verses 1-8).

1 Cor. 1:6-8 The God that confirmed you the day you got saved (vs. 6) will confirm you unto the end (vs 8), referring to the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ (vs. 6). The Holy Spirit confirms to God the Father that a person who calls on the name of the Lord is in Christ; salvation is accomplished.

The believer is confirmed by the Lord and will be, therefore, **“blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ”** (vs. 8). It has nothing to do with what I do for Jesus; it has everything to do with what Jesus did for me. I'm saved to the end because of Christ, not because of me.

Heb. 10:9-14 The believer is **“sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all”** (vs 10), not through good works or living right. No other sacrifice can take away sins (vs. 11). Christ's one sacrifice was for all sins forever (vs. 12). His one offering perfected all who are sanctified forever (vs. 14).

Therefore, anyone who was ever sanctified in Christ Jesus (1 Cor. 1:6-8) is forever sanctified and perfected for all eternity. My daily separation from sin has nothing to do with my salvation. Right living gives me a right relationship with my Savior.

Eph. 2:8-9 God freely gives salvation to the believer. It IS (present tense) the gift of God. It is not based upon good works. Therefore no one will ever boast in heaven about how they lived right and earned heaven. The grace of God... IS (present tense) given you by Jesus Christ (1 Cor. 1:4). A believer is an ongoing recipient of the grace of God.

Eccl. 3:14 This verse, when applied to salvation, supports the doctrine of eternal security: **“I KNOW that, whatsoever God doeth (my salvation), it shall be FOREVER (my salvation): nothing can be put to (my salvation), —nor any thing taken from (my salvation): —and GOD (!) DOETH it (my salvation), —that men should fear before him.”**

If I can't lose my salvation, what keeps me from sinning? **“By the fear of the LORD men depart from evil”** (Prov. 16:6). It's a fear of offending a God who's been so good to us.

Phil. 1:6 Your salvation is God's work and He will finish that good work.

2 Tim. 2:13 If a day comes when you no longer believe you're saved because of sin, God abides faithful: he cannot deny himself. He said when you trusted Christ you were confirmed to the end. He can't ever deny that without becoming a liar.

2 Pet. 2:6-8 Lot was justified (vs. 7), but he saw and heard all the same things the sodomites saw and heard. He didn't live an exemplary life as a believer, but God delivered him from destruction. He stands as an example in the Bible of a believer who escapes the Tribulation even though their life is far from sinless perfection. This is only possible through the blood of Christ and His righteousness.

Jude 1:24 The Lord is the one who is able to keep me (a sanctified believer, verse 1) from falling and to present me faultless. I'm not able to keep myself. Thank the Lord I don't have to!

Heb. 12:1-2 Jesus was the author (the initiator) of my faith and he is the finisher of my faith. Whatever way I choose to run the race that He put me in (sin or no sin/weight or no weight), He'll be the one to get me across the finish line.

John 10:27-28 It is the responsibility of the Good Shepherd to guide, provide for, and protect His sheep. Sheep are not responsible for those things. In fact, they are incapable. A person who says a sheep that wanders away is lost forever is saying that the Shepherd is not good enough to care for His sheep because the Shepherd is the one responsible to stick with the sheep.

Jesus Christ gives His sheep ETERNAL life; and they shall NEVER perish. No man can get His sheep (including you, yourself).

John 10:10-14 Jesus is the Good Shepherd. He gives His life for the sheep. He'll never leave the sheep because He cares for them.
