

PHILIPPIANS Lesson 5

Chapter 1, Verse 6: Jesus Christ, the Finisher of Our Faith The Doctrine of Eternal Security

23 May 2022

“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 are the two teachings concerning the way to heaven?

- You earn entrance to heaven by doing good works (Eph 2:8-9 and Titus 3:5 refutes this).
- You enter heaven by receiving eternal life as a free gift of God by grace through faith (Rom 6:23, 1 Jn 5:11-12).

All have sinned (Rom 3:10, 23, Eccl 7:20, 1 Jn 1:8).

Jesus Christ died to pay for all my sins (1 Cor. 15:1-4, Isa 53:6).

Anyone who believes on the Lord Jesus Christ will be saved (Rom 1:16, 10:9-10, 13).

Salvation does not begin by my own works. It begins by God performing a good work in me (Php1:6).

People who truly have eternal life are confident they are going to be with the Lord forever. This is not due to **self**-confidence based on **works**. Our confidence is in the One who began a good work in us. He said He would perform that good work **until the day of Jesus Christ**.

Heb 12:1-2 Jesus Christ is the **Author and Finisher of our faith**. You may still be beset (troubled) by sins of the flesh along the way, but Jesus Christ promised to finish your faith nonetheless.

Heb 13:5-6 Jesus said, **“I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.”** Some church ministers may try and tell you that you can lose the salvation that Jesus Christ gave you. That would make Jesus a liar. God cannot lie (Titus 1:2, 1 Cor 1:9, Ps 31:5, Heb 6:18, 1 Tim 2:13, Num 23:19).

Heb 5:8-9 Jesus Christ, the Son of God is **the author of eternal salvation** unto all them that obey him. What did they obey? Jesus Christ told them to believe on Him, and they believed.

- Note here that **eternal** salvation is given at the point of authorship, not at the finish of your life (as if to tally up and see if you earned it).
- Eternal**: forever, without end, beyond the bounds of time.

1 Cor 1:6-9 Here is a church with all kinds of sinful problems. The bible tells these believers that Jesus Christ **“shall also confirm you unto the end, that ye may be blameless.”**

- This promise is not conditioned upon these believers straightening up and doing right. It rests upon the fact that **“God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of His Son Jesus Christ our Lord”** (vs 9).
 - You cannot earn a place in heaven by removing sins from your life, one by one. As long as you’re in a body of flesh, you will have to fight against sin. At the end of your life, you’ll still be a sinner saved by the grace of God.
 - There are no “big sins” and “little sins.” Any sin will render you guilty before God (James 2:10).
 - You might judge yourself to be less sinful than your neighbour, but in the presence of the holy God, you will come to recognize just how sinful you really are (Isa 6:5). You will be thankful for the grace and mercy of God for saving a sinner like you.
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