

Title: Can Christians Lose Their Salvation?

109

What We Believe

Text: John 6:37-39

in Christian circles

I believe the question that is ask more than anyother is: CAN A CHRISTIAN LOSE HIS OR HER SALVATION? I wander how you would answer that question.

MOST BAPTIST Churches

That "

~~In our statement of belief we say~~ WE BELIEVE IN THE ETERNAL SECURITY OF BELIEVERS IN CHRIST. WHEN ONE IS BORN AGAIN HE BECOMES A CHILD OF GOD AND REMAINS FOREVER IN GOD'S FAMILY. THIS DOES NOT IMPLY SINLESS PERFECTION OR PROVIDES A LICENCE TO SIN." *Can Christians Lose Their Salvation?*

I am going to share many passages from the Bible with you. So, please have your Bibles handy.

(Let's begin with a word of prayer)

Can Christians lose their salvation? Now, I know that many of you believe that you have the question all worked out and settled. But, it is not as easy as you may think.

(1B) Thus, I want to begin by looking at the various ways people answer the question. When you ask: CAN CHRISTIANS LOSE THEIR SALVATION? you may answer in one of the following ways:

(1C) First, some folks say that salvation maybe lost by committing a moral sin. Such as: murder or adultery. If you commit a moral sin, you lose your salvation. Thus, you must get saved all over again.

(2C) Number two: some folks say that if you commit a willful sin you can lose your salvation. That is you know what is right, but you chose to sin. If you make that choice to sin, you lose your salvation. And you need to get saved once again. *Free Will Baptist Beliefs or pentecostal church*

(3C) Number three: salvation maybe lost because of apostacy. And this becomes a very big issue in ~~Baptist~~ *some Christian* circles. What if I denie Christ? What if I do not believe in the virgine birth or the second coming. Certainly God is not going to save those folks, is He? *Interesting Problem.*

(4C) Number four, salvation maybe lost if we do not persevere to the end. This *Belief* ~~believe~~ is held by some who are very strong on the doctrine of predestination. And yet, who on this point says, .."If we don't presevere, we cannot be eternally secure. Interesting problem

(5C) Number five. Salvation maybe lost if we stop believing. We come to the point where we all of a sudden stop believing in Jesus Christ. After all, I have free will. I can choose to believe. Or, I can choose not to believe.

(6C) Number six. salvation maybe lost if we fail to confess present sin. This is a very popular view. Many people teach that if Christ should return and there is sin in your life, you are lost.

7C) Number seven: Salvation maybe lost if we commit the unpardonable sin.

Now personally, I wouldn't put salvation as being lost. But, certainly it is proof that you are not a christian when you baspheme the Holy Spirit.

(8C) And number eight..which is the view of this church, and therefore, is the correct view...Salvation can never be lost, if in truth the person is saved.

If you have accepted Jesus Christ as your saviour, you can never lose your salvation. Now, the question is why? And can I prove that from scripture?

I want to share with you seven principles proving that you cannot lose your salvation. And I am going to share a number of passages. So, get your Bibles

ready..(2B) Biblical ^{Here are the} proof ^{Reasons why a} ~~that~~ christians cannot lose ^{his/hen} ~~their~~ salvation.

(1C) Number one. John chapter 6, please. John chapter 6 :37-39. Here, we find the first principle proving that Christians cannot lose their salvation.

John 6:37 .."All that the Father gives me shall come to me, and the one who comes to me I will certainly not cast out. For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of Him who sent me. And this is the will of Him who sent me, that of all that He has given me I lose nothing, but raise it up on the last day."

Principle number one: the simple impossibility of Jesus losing anyone who comes to him. That is what those verses are teaching. The impossibility of Jesus losing anyone who comes to Him. Praise God.

Now, people will argue over what it means to come to Jesus. To come to Jesus is simply to “believe in Him.” Dear friends, salvation isn’t based upon whether or not you have enough faith. Salvation is based upon what Jesus has already done. He died on the cross for our sins. You either accept or deny that fact.

So often we look at salvation as whether I am strong enough, or have enough faith to believe it. That is false. Salvation is not based on whether you and I are strong enough to believe something. We are simply ask to respond to the revelation of God’s Word about Jesus Christ. You either accept it or you reject it. If you accept it, you have salvation. If you reject it, you don’t. I believe we need to get back to the basic concept of salvation. A salvation that is based on Jesus Christ. Not based on my faith. Salvation is based on what Jesus has already done. And that revelation of Jesus in His word, I either accept, or I reject. PERIOD!!!

commit Now, another thing you should notice, here, is that the guarantee of resurrection is connected with this impossibility of Christ losing anyone who comes to Him. He says that not only will I never lose anyone, but I will raise them up on the last day. The guarantee of the resurrection.

(2C) Now, turn to John chapter 10 for principle number two. John chapter 10 verse 27.

(Read Vs 27-29)

The principle, here, is the inability of anyone to take our salvation from us. The inability of anyone to take our salvation from us. No one can snatch us out of the hands of our heavenly Father. They are totally unable to do that. No matter what kind of wolf they are in sheep’s clothing, or what kind of devil they are in angel’s outfits, they are not able to take us away from the mighty hand of God.

Now, there are those who say: “O.K., but what if I choose to jump out of His hand? After all, I have free will.” Now, I really don’t think that deserves an answer. But, I will answer this argument. I have never known anyone who was a true child of God who ever wanted to jump out of his hand. What kind of dumbness is that? Why I praise god for this assurance that I belong to Him. I am not wanting to jump out of his hand. Dear friends, there is security here. And the simple point of John 10 is that no one is able to take our salvation from us. Now, combine that with number one: the impossibility of God losing anyone who come to him. WOW!! Talk about the security of the believer. It is so wonderful.

(3C) Principle number three: Turn to Romans chapter 8. Romans chapter 8 verse 35.

Romans chapter 8 verse 35. (Read Vs 35-39)

The principle is: the incapability of anything being able to separate us from the love of God. Boy! I praise ^{God} ~~god~~ for this passage. Don’t you? Nothing can separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus. I don’t care how severe you make it. It is kind of dumb to throw up a few sins to God and act as though they can separate us from His wonderful love. When the issue goes so far that He mention even death. Nothing can separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

(4C) Principle number four. Turn to Romans chapter 11. ~~And~~ ^{Now} this fourth principle you are going to have to follow through with three passages. Romans 11:29. Then we will go to 2 Timothy 1:9. And then to Hebrews 6:17-20.

In this fourth principle we are talking about the unchangeableness of God. God cannot change. And that guarantees that we cannot lose our salvation.

Romans 11:29 says: “for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.” That simply means that God never changes His mind concerning His gifts and His calling.

Now, come to 2 Timothy chapter 1 verse 9. 2 Timothy 1:9. Paul writes to Timothy and speaking about God’s power says: “who has saved us, and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity.”

You see, God called me to himself according to His purpose. Not based on any worthiness on my part or any works on my part.

I think that a lot of us have the idea that God only calls the individual person when ^{*The individual*} ~~you~~ *person* call on Him. I think that is a basic misunderstanding. Every time I hear a question ask in this regard, it comes out that way. We have the idea that as soon as we call upon the name of the Lord, then God calls us to himself. Dear friends, it is just the opposite. God calls you. And then he even gives you the ability to call on Him. The Bible says that “no man is seeking after God.” God is seeking us. God calls us according to His purpose. And this, according to Vs. 9, is “from all eternity.

Now, turn over to Hebrews chapter 8. And this will just add strength to the unchangeableness of God. That He will not go back on his word. He will do what He says He will do. Hebrews 6:17. (Read Vs 17-20)

That, dear friends, is a fantastic passage. God will never change. And he confirmed our own position in Him by two unchangeable things: First, by His own character. James 1:17 says: “with the Father there is no variation or shifting shadow.” He is absolutely consistent with himself.

Malachi 3:6 says: “I am the Lord. I change not.”

So, by his own character. But, secondly, by an oath. Meaning a promise to us that we will never lose what we have when we come to Him. It is an anchor of the soul, and a hope both sure and steadfast. So, the unchangeableness of God, himself, is guaranteeing that we cannot lose our salvation. Praise God!

(5C) Now, principle number five. Turn to Ephesians chapter 1. Ephesians chapter 1.

(6a)

The fifth principle dealing with this Biblical proof that we cannot lose our salvation, is the illustration of the sealing of the Holy Spirit.

Ephesians chapter 1 verse 13 says.... (read Vs 13 and 14)

The simple point here is the sealing. In ancient times a "seal" was a mark of ownership. And that is the basic interpretation here as it says in Vs 14.. "we are God's own possession." *So, if God owns you - How can you lose your seal?*

Now, the same thing is taught in chapter 4 verse 30.... We have been sealed by God's Holy Spirit. That is when you become a Christian God's Holy Spirit comes into you. His presence is a guarantee that one day you will receive all the inheritance that God promised to you.

Ephesians 4:30 says "do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption."

THE QUESTION IS: HOW LONG AM I SEALED? Answer: until the day of my own redemption. And I praise the Lord for that...

(6C) Now, turn to Philippians chapter 1 verse 6 as we look at the sixth principle related to why believers cannot lose their salvation. Philippians 1:6....

And the simple point here is the infailability of God's work in the believer.

Now, we are failable. We are going to fail. God cannot *fail*

Philippians 1:6 says... "For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus."

Now the little word "Perfect" means "to come to a completion." So, the point of this verse is that God who began the work in you....notice, you did not begin the work yourself...So often we speak of when "I ACCEPTED CHRIST" as the beginning of God's salvation in my life. That is not true.

God began the work of salvation before the world was ever created. And from the standpoint of time of you receiving Him, it is still God who is working in you. God began a work that He, himself, will bring to complete fulfillment at the day of Jesus Christ. Or, when he comes back again.

Also, chapter 2 of Philippians verse 13 tells us the same thing.. "For it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure."

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No question about it. My Salvation, in terms of whether I can lose it, or not, is definitely affected by the infallibility of God's work in my life. It isn't my works for him. It is God's work in me from beginning to end *that brings security*

(7) O.K. PRINCIPLE NUMBER 7. Turn to I Thessalonians chapter 5. I

Thessalonians chapter 5. This seventh principle concerns THE IMPORTANCE OF GOD'S POWER AND FAITHFULNESS TO US. The importance of God's power and faithfulness guarantees that I cannot lose my salvation.

I Thess. chapter 5 verses 23 and 24....(READ VS. 23-24)

What a wonderful passage. We are going to be preserved how?....."COMPLETE AND WITHOUT BLAME."

DEAR FRIENDS, I HOPE YOU UNDERSTAND. GOD IS ABLE TO PRESERVE US COMPLETELY AND WITHOUT BLAME.

Who is able to keep us from stumbling? God is. Not, we trying to keep ourselves from stumbling. So, often when someone ask a question about losing ^{their} your salvation, it comes back to what you and I are able to do. Dear friends, let's get our minds off of that false concept. The ability is God's. MY RESPONSIBILITY.....YOUR RESPONSIBILITY ...is simply responding to God's ability. He is able to keep us from stumbling.

And to make us stand. HOW? Without blame. WHY? Because "He is faithful. And He will bring it to Pass." And He makes us stand in the presence of His glory. AMEN? AMEN.

Dear Friends
O.K. I have given you 7 wonderful principles proving from God's Word why a Christians cannot lose His or Her salvation.

Now, let me share one final verse with you that I hope will be a blessing. The verse is 2 Timothy chapter 2 verse 13. 2 Tim. 2:13.

Often people will ask: "I have a dear friend who has known Christ for years. But, certain circumstances have happened to them and now they don't come to church anymore. HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN THAT? Now, please remember this verse and share it with people who ask.

2 Timothy 2:13 says: "If we are faithless, He remains faithful, for He cannot deny Himself."

And you cannot deny
What a wonderful promise. If you are faithless.....You say, "I don't have faith anymore in Christ." Yet, He remains FAITHFUL. He cannot deny Himself. HAY! MAN! Doesn't that bring great assurance and confidence to your life?

Dear friends, please remember: God has made our salvation based upon Himself. Not upon us. *or our works* And He gave an oath to confirm it. And it is impossible for God to change.

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You know, I really believe our response should be one of thankfulness. Thankful to God for His wonderful salvation. Thankful to God for the wonderful security we have as believers in Jesus Christ.

Now, the question that is basic is: ARE YOU SAVED? If you are not saved, then you do not have the security of this message. And the solution is to ask Jesus Christ to come into your life. "If we confess our sins He is faithful and just to forgive our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." *Believe on the name of J C and you will be saved*

And once you have accepted Christ as your savior, you ARE saved. And then you have the security of the believer.

LET'S CLOSE WITH A WORD OF PRAYER