

**A Short Exhortation Concerning  
Eternal Perseverance Of The Saints  
Or  
Eternal Security**

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## **"HEARTS THAT HAVE GROWN COLD"**

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“If you rightly believe you are saved by faith through the precious blood of Jesus Christ spilled at the cross, then live as if you will always fall under grace anytime you sin, then you definitely should reassess and reconsider the information from God’s Word in this very powerful study concerning the believer’s security.”

When we are facing Jesus Christ in Judgment, can we excuse our unforgiven sins by saying, “Yes, Lord, I lost my relationship and favor with you, but I believed that your purifying fires would burn all my wood, hay and stubble; so I’m ok, Isn’t that right, Lord. Huh, Lord?”

“I don’t know you. Only the precious blood of My Son can wash away sins. When you come before My throne in judgment – it’s too late – for you have died in your sins.” Be cast into the fires of hell where the devil and his angels dwell forever and ever.”

### **We Live in Dangerous times**

1) But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. 2) People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, 3) without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good (2 Timothy 3:1-3)

"I tell you that the times are changing. I tell you that hearts will grow cold. I tell you that children will become more and more disobedient to their parents. I tell you that even in the church these things will be evident. I tell you that many will deny me in this hour. I tell you that many places of worship have become lukewarm. "

"I am coming back for a bride but I don't see her ready. I hear of your conventions and your seminars, but what have they done for you? Have you become more merciful to the poor? Have you given out of your need or your surplus? Have you grown great in your gifts but poor in your wisdom? I tell you that I don't see that you're ready. When will you abolish the things of the world? When will you desire to be like Me? I tell you that hearts have grown cold."

If you have continued this far, I encourage you to consider strongly the following article, as it is one of the most powerful indications that God's will for His people everywhere is to put away sin by asking the Holy Spirit to help them deny self, take up their cross daily, and follow after Him.

Jesus Christ does indeed claim the Churches today which have forsaken His ways; those who have allowed same sex marriages; those who have misunderstood the horrors of abortion, and others. A radical statement? Maybe, but true.

Open your Bible to Chapters 2 and 3 of the Revelation. Jesus names Seven Churches. Each one was revealed to represent individual church periods. They also represent every church in every age.

Therefore, we cannot evade His messages to these churches. They are real.

As you study these chapters thoroughly, you'll find that some of them have harsh judgments because of their evils, deceptions and other failures. He also tells them what will happen to them when they fail to repent. Jesus lets us know that if we die in our sins after failing to repent, we will have to face His extreme judgments. But He did not leave His Churches hanging off the edge of the cliff; He gave us the solutions, and the blessings unto eternal life. These solutions will encourage heartfelt repentances by the believer.

Yes, The Church with the spirit of Balaam, the Church with the spirit of Jezebel, the Church that lost her first love, all are claimed by Jesus. Jesus acknowledges these Churches belonged to Him, and is still calling them back to repentance. Some will return to Him, but some have fully rejected Him because of the deception from the enemy of our souls. These who continue to reject Jesus will face certain judgments...at the Judgment Seat of Christ.

On the last day of the day of the feast, Jesus stood up and cried out, saying, "If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink" (I have this mental picture of Christ locating a large stone to stand on. Then, when He is upon the stone, and in agony of Spirit, He raises His arms toward the sky and proclaims His message of hope...not only to His favored, but to all men). Again, "If any man thirst, let him come to Me, and drink." And He continues, "He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water." (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified)" (John 7:37-39).

This was speaking of the Day of Pentecost. We must remember this truth because therein lies the solution to all our sin-problems. Jesus never indicated anywhere in the Word of God that to continue in sin was ok. The facts are...it wasn't ok and never was. From the fall of Adam, God reached down to mankind with His great love for all. He had already developed the perfect plan...and taught His own people that plan through the Law and the Tabernacle concerning the coverage of animals blood, a picture of the cleansing powers of Jesus' precious blood. Jesus and His Apostles, while intensely preaching the Words of Jesus Christ by His own Spirit...continued to preach holiness and righteousness without which no man shall see God.

### **The Churches of Revelation**

In the 2nd and 3rd chapters of Revelation, Jesus commanded (in John's vision) these Churches to repent. Some had already been invaded by the satanic teachings of Balaam and Jezebel; they had begun to lose their First Love, were lazy, failed to live uprightly before the world, etc. A portion of the church actually turned reprobate and separated from His teachings of holiness and righteousness. What John penned 2,000 years ago to the 7 churches – is being proclaimed – even now by Christ – calling the churches to repentance.

John's message to these Churches were not only for that day, but were intended for Christ's Church throughout the days of Grace, and especially for today. It appears more and more that many churches

have already, in our life time, strayed so far from Christ that they have become "reprobate". Yet, Jesus is calling out today more than ever before. We are yet in the day of Grace, but there will come a time these churches will be held responsible for their corruptions, both corporately, and individually.

Those who reject Christ and refuse to repent will eventually be turned over to "reprobate".

A reprobate is someone who doesn't like to continue retaining God in his knowledge. It is not someone whom God refuses to receive. He'll take a person like that if he comes and lays himself down and repents. The reprobate could get back to God while alive on this earth, but there is usually not enough in him to get back with for all the condemnations on his soul. So he continues to move further and further away from the Lord.

Because Eternalists believe they were once saved, they in turn do not pray for their own loved ones because they "know" they will be ok. But God commands His people to repent and pray for one another through intercession when we are astray.

### **What's Grace, Really?**

Jesus said to hang on and not turn loose. If we do not turn loose of those in danger, Jesus will not turn loose. There are many walking down that path now, but those whom you single out and will not turn loose of, He'll not turn loose of them. He'll surround them with His angels, and He'll send laborer after laborer to them in addressing their hardened hearts. Some, in fact many of us would be in hellish torment today had it not been for those who were willing to persevere in agonizing prayer for loved ones. A terrible day is coming . . .

For the sake of the believer, Jesus is here to strengthen us and give us wisdom. It isn't His will that any of His children fall away. It's line upon line from glory to glory. Many are no longer walking where they once walked. This is no time to draw away from Jesus. We must draw nearer to Him as we approach the bad times. As we increase in Him, He is able to increase the "*all things that are possible*" that He does on behalf of others. We must be strong and determined to walk in pace with Jesus. We must never let up on our calling. We must always allow our lights to shine before this world – because this generation is getting darker and darker. Do you believe you can face Jesus Christ on judgment while "in your sins"? Don't count on that.

For Grace does not cover our sins. Grace teaches us how to realize our authority, power, wisdom and strengths to make us overcomers in Him. Only the blood of Jesus Christ can cleanse us from our sins, and then, only while we live on this earth; not at judgment. His blood cannot cleanse you at that time. When Paul taught about the burning of our wood, hay, and stubble (1 Cor. 3:5-17), he was teaching of our "works", and not our "sins". Only the blood of Jesus can wash away our sins.

I encourage you to continue in this study, as it is extremely important information for our fullness in Christ. More will be coming, so continue to watch...

## THE SECURITY TAUGHT IN THE BIBLE

Let it not be said that the Bible does not teach security for a Christian. By numerous scriptures, the Bible has shown there is no such doctrine as unconditional security taught.

Now, let us look at the security that IS given to the believer by the Word of God. All too often, many, in an attempt to disprove the "eternal security" fallacy, have failed to emphasize the security that IS taught in the Scriptures. **Two extremes have been taken:** one teaches UNCONDITIONAL security; the other teaches NO SECURITY. Every true Christian should be able to say with Paul, "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day."

### Some passages that teach the security of the believer are:

"...Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin." (Ps 32; and Romans 4:7,8).

"And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me *I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day*" (John 6:39).

"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 me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand" (John 10:27-29).

"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall Tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, for thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:35-39).

"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" (Jude 24).

"Being confident of this very thing, that the which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ" (Philippians 1:6).

"Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time" (I Peter 1:5).

Many have used these Scriptures to support the claim that it is impossible for one who has been saved to be lost. Actually they teach nothing of the sort. These verses do not say, "do not teach and do not infer, when the context is studied, that it is IMPOSSIBLE for one who has once been converted to be finally lost." It may be well to point out that the expressions, "once saved, always

saved," "once in grace, always in grace," always saved," "once in grace, always in grace," "eternal security," "unconditional security" and "eternal perseverance of the saints" are found nowhere in the Word of God, but are statements of man which are not founded upon the Bible.

### **ROMANS 4:7,8**

Here, Paul proclaims blessings on those 1) whose sins are forgiven; and 2) those whom the Lord will not impute sin. These two verses were direct quotes from Psalm 32. This entire Psalm explains in detail and quite clearly the Spirit-led meaning. In order to do true justice to what Paul is saying, I must pen the entire Psalm.

**A Psalm of Penitence:** Probably when David sinned with Bathsheba – covered it up – then repented.

1 Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

2 Blessed is the man unto whom the LORD imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile.

3 When I kept silence, my bones waxed old through my roaring all the day long.

4 For day and night thy hand was heavy upon me: my moisture is turned into the drought of summer. Selah.

5 I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin. Selah.

6 For this shall every one that is godly pray unto thee in a time when thou mayest be found: surely in the floods of great waters they shall not come nigh unto him.

7 Thou art my hiding place; thou shalt preserve me from trouble; thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance. Selah.

8 I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye.

9 Be ye not as the horse, or as the mule, which have no understanding: whose mouth must be held in with bit and bridle, lest they come near unto thee.

10 Many sorrows shall be to the wicked: but he that trusteth in the LORD, mercy shall compass him about.

11 Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, ye righteous: and shout for joy, all ye that are upright in heart. (Ps 32:1-11) KJV

1)David's sins were forgiven; and there was no guile in him (deceit). A description of blessings only after David repented in verse 5

2-4)David's sin w/Bathsheba(?) David was miserable and inwardly tortured by the heavy hand of the Lord. He was guilty of the heaviest sin he could imagine.

5) Repentance finally came. David confessed, and peace came to him.

6-11) David proclaims joy and trust in the Lord. Also includes a comparison to those who do evil.

### **JOHN 6:39**

In John 6:39 Jesus calls attention to the fact that it is not God's will for Him to lose anything, but that He should raise it up at the last day. But, is God's will always followed in relation to men? We know that it is not. God is "not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance," yet men are going to hell by the thousands OUT OF THE WILL OF GOD. Christ does not attempt to

teach UNCONDITIONAL security but gives consolation to believers that if they follow God's will they cannot be lost, but will be raised up at the last day. "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven" (Matthew 7:21).

### **JOHN 10:27-29**

In John 10, who are the ones that Jesus said would NEVER perish? Jesus did not say, "I give unto my sheep eternal life, and they shall never perish," instead He said, "I give unto THEM eternal life; and THEY shall never perish." Now who are the ones to whom the words "them" and "they" refer? In verse 27 we find that Jesus makes this reference to those that "hear" and not only hear, but "follow". No one has a Bible right to claim the promise, "shall never perish," unless he is hearing the Master's voice and following Him. Everyone will admit that the backslider does not "hear His voice," and does not "follow Him," therefore, THE BACKSLIDER HAS NO RIGHT TO CLAIM THIS PROMISE.

The only "eternal" security the Bible teaches is to the believers who CONTINUALLY REMAIN in the Lord Jesus Christ. That a man may be in him AND NOT REMAIN, Jesus made clear when he said, "If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned." (John 15:6). The everlasting life that a Christian possesses is IN THE SON. John said, "And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life and this life is IN his Son." ( 1 John 5:11). Therefore, as long as we abide IN THE SON we have ETERNAL life and "shall NEVER perish". Thank God, this is the security of the Christian.

### **ROMANS 8:35-39**

In Romans 8, was Paul teaching an UNCONDITIONAL security when he said, "For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Paul did not say, "You cannot separate yourself." Neither did he say, "Sin cannot separate you." We know from Scripture that sin will separate us from God. "But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear" (Isaiah 59:2). Paul was in no sense of the word attempting to teach the Romans that it would be impossible for them to be unfaithful and finally be lost, but was merely giving security to the faithful.

The Apostle knew as his day so his strength would be, and he intended to be faithful. Other Christians may have the same assurance; not because they believe it impossible for them to backslide and to perish, but because they know God will never leave nor forsake them while they live as they were then living, and as they determined to live to the end. Paul also said, "we are not of them who draw back unto perdition;" but this does not prove that a Christian will not or cannot draw back, but plainly implies that some do so.

The Apostle says that, though we may face tribulation, distress, persecution, famine, nakedness, peril, sword, death, life, angels, principalities, powers, things present, things to come, height, depth, or any other creature.

These things in themselves cannot separate us from the love of God; and what those who believe Eternal Security have missed in this scripture, is that "Those who are willing to go through all these things for the sake of their God...are the same ones who have real security in Christ Jesus. Yet, Eternal Security people do not believe in connecting Romans 8:38,39 with Romans 8:34-37. Odd, isn't it?

### **HOW BELIEVERS ARE KEPT**

Believers are kept in the same manner in which they are saved. While THE BIBLE DOES NOT TEACH JUSTIFICATION BY WORKS, yet the Scriptures reveal that there are certain things which sinners must do in order to be saved. Sinners must repent; for, "Except ye repent ye shall all likewise perish" (Luke 13:3-5). Sinners must believe, because, "He that believeth not shall be damned" (Mark 16:16). Sinners must call upon the Name of the Lord, because, "Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Acts 2:21, Romans 10:13). Remember this: 1) Jesus taught that whosoever does the will of His Father is saved; and 2) James taught works prove our faith – after we are justified.(James 2:14-26; also Genesis 22 and Joshua2)

Sinners must confess with their mouth, because, "If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved" (Romans 10:9). Some will say, "You are preaching justification by works." No I am not. Let me ask a question, Why is not ALL the world saved? You will say, "Well, because the world will not believe." There you have it.

Although you may believe in justification BY FAITH ONLY (as I do) yet you must admit the reason the world is not saved is because it will not believe. In other words, sinners must meet certain conditions before they can be saved, although they cannot save themselves. Some say, "God has chosen me, and I just say `Amen' to His choice." Nevertheless, you still do something, even if it is just saying, "Amen."

Use whatever phraseology you choose, yet you must come to the conclusion that, although man cannot save himself, he does have a part in his salvation. Now, as we are saved, so are we kept. The Bible says that.

Christ is "able to save" (Hebrews 7:25). and also, "able to keep" (Jude 24; II Timothy 1:12), but the fact that Christ is ABLE TO SAVE does not mean that ALL sinners will be saved. Neither does the fact that Christ is ABLE TO KEEP necessarily mean that ALL believers will be kept.

We cannot save ourselves, nor can we keep ourselves. WE ARE saved and kept only as we yield ourselves to Christ. Our salvation was conditional and our being kept is conditional. God has held out the prospect of salvation to all the world (John 3:16; 1 John 2:2; 2 Peter 3:9). Yet that salvation

is conditional, not UNconditional, or all the world would be saved.

God has held out the prospect of keeping every believer, yet there are conditions attached to that keeping. If a sinner fails to yield to God for salvation, he can never be saved. If a believer fails to yield to God for keeping, he can never be kept, but will fall away and finally be lost.

To say that one act of faith in Christ at some time in one's life absolutely guarantees him heaven, in spite of his future conduct, means to completely overlook or ignore the following Scriptures which teach Christian responsibility and the fact that...

### **...WE ARE SAVED "IF"**

"Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, AND WHEREIN YE STAND: by which also YE ARE SAVED IF ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain" (1 Corinthians 15:1, 2).

"Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, IF thou continue in his goodness: OTHERWISE THOU ALSO SHALL BE CUT OFF" (Romans 11:22).

"In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unproveable in his sight: IF ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel" (Colossians 1:22,23).

"But Christ as a son over his own house; whose house are we, IF we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm UNTO THE END" (Hebrews 3:6).

"For we are made partakers of Christ, IF we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast UNTO THE END" (Hebrews 3:14).

"Wherefore the rather, brethren give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for IF ye do these things, ye shall never fall" (2 Peter 1:10).

"Let that therefore abide in you which ye have heard from the beginning. IF that which ye have heard from the beginning shall remain in you, ye shall continue in the Son, and in the Father" (1 John 2:24).

"But he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, IF we faint not" (Galatians 6:8,9).

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