

# Our Security In Christ

## *How Believers Are Kept*

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The following article is the Ninth in a series of Discussions on the subject of "Our Security In Christ".

**JOHN 6:39** -- "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).

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).

- **JUDE 24**—"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".
- **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".
- **1 PETER 1:5**—"Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time".

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, and not founded upon the Bible.

### *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 shalt be cut off*" (Romans 11:22).

"In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unreprouvable 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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