

Can Salvation be LOST

An intense, raging battle continues over the doctrinal issue, *can salvation be lost or are we once saved always saved (OSAS)?* Connected with it are several other related issues.

- If it can be lost, what are the ways?
- How can a Christian protect himself?
- Can you get salvation back again?

Let's carefully examine all these questions in this same order.

QUESTION: Can Salvation Be Lost Or Is It OSAS?

ANSWER: Yes, salvation can be lost. In other words, *a righteous person can die spiritually* (Ezek 3:20; 18:24,26; 33 13,18, Rom 8.13 6:16; Jam 1 14-16; 5 19,20; etc.). If a person would read the New Testament without any preconceived ideas of what it says and just accept what it declares, there would be no controversy. It is clear—salvation can be lost. Rather than ignore or reject the overwhelming evidence, embrace it. **It is to your advantage to believe salvation can be lost, even over one sin. Conversely, it is to your great disadvantage to deny this. It is actually self-destructive.**

There are nearly two dozen biblical examples of people, named and unnamed, who died spiritually after salvation. That is conclusive evidence which ends this debate for truth lovers, but that is not all. There are also many warnings of this same possibility. Here is one:

The man who loves his life will lose it, while the man who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. (John 12:25)

According to Jesus there, a Christian loses or keeps his salvation based on his loving or hating his life in this world.

The many *ifs* connected with salvation are the *icing on the cake*. Without doubt, salvation can be lost. Hence, the Holy

Spirit had New Testament writers proclaim.

We have come to share in Christ **if we hold firmly till the end the confidence we had at first.** (Heb 3:14)

QUESTION: What Are The Ways Salvation Can Be Lost?

ANSWER: There are three main ways: 1 Through certain sins, (2) By believing and/or preaching certain false doctrines related to salvation, and (3) Disowning Jesus during persecution.

Not all sins lead to spiritual death (1 John 5 16,17), but many do. **Besides the obvious sexual immorality, drunkenness and idolatry, there are other sins which can bring spiritual death, like fruitlessness, lukewarmness, choosing to be a friend of the world and being unforgiving.** Dozens of Scriptures can be cited.

Preaching a false gospel will also damn a person, while not continuing in doctrinal truth, which brought salvation, will cause loss of eternal life:

But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, **let him be eternally condemned!** As we have already said, so now I say again: **If anybody is preaching to you a gospel other than what you accepted, let him be eternally condemned!** Gal 1:8,9)

See that what you have heard from the beginning remains in you. **If it does, you also will remain in the Son and in the Father.** And this is what he promised us—even eternal life. **I am writing these things to you about those who are trying to lead you astray** 1 John 2:24-26)

It is our own responsibility, under the Christian gospel, to *hold on* so as to continue with salvation.

By this **gospel** you are saved, **if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.** (1 Cor 15:2)

Disowning Jesus will cause him *to disown you*:

But whoever disowns me before men, **I will disown him before my Father in heaven.** (Mat 10:33)

Between initial and final salvation there are many things that will occur over time which can be destructive to spiritual life. Those things could be **persecutions for Godly living, cares of this life, painful trials, prayer disappointments, sinful temptations, sicknesses, relationships, financial calamity, false teachers, the pleasures of this life, etc.** We must remain on guard. It is a *salvation* issue and nothing less.

All of these truths should be readily known by all professing Christians, not debated as they are. To reject disturbing truth will not change it. The danger is still real—not nullified—by discounting it.

QUESTION: How Can A Christian Protect Himself?

ANSWER. A Christian must take serious the various directives to protect himself and stay alive spiritually, which is the exact opposite of the prevalent security-in-sin messages in our day There are well over a dozen Scriptural safeguards, which need to be heeded. Here are a few:

Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. (Eph 6:11)

Holding on to faith and a good conscience. Some have rejected these and so have shipwrecked their faith. (Tim 1:19)

Therefore come out from them and be separate, says the Lord. Touch no unclean thing, and I will receive you. (2 Cor 6:17)

All of these are under New Testament *grace* and must be applied and obeyed. **To obey them is not legalism or a works salvation, as the blind guides say. It is vital to ignore those false teachers and DO what Scripture says.** Jesus taught the following simple truth about how to avoid spiritual death.

I tell you the truth, if anyone **keeps my word**, he will never see death. (John 8:51)

There is no salvation security in wickedness. Do not be deceived by blind guides who confuse the issue and allow for both salvation and occasional acts of sexual sin, drunkenness, etc.:

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For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person—such a man is an idolater—has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. **Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient.** Therefore do not be partners with them. (Eph 5:5-7)

QUESTION: Can You Get Salvation Back Again?

ANSWER. Yes. In every case but blasphemy against the Holy Spirit (or eternal sin) one can get salvation back again. Eternal sin is only committed when a person says and believes Jesus had a demon and by the power of the devil he performed his miracles (Mk. 3:22-30). This is also the sin related to the well-known **Heb. 6:4-6** and **10:26-29** passages.

Other Scriptures are clear in revealing **salvation can be regained (Lk. 15:24; James 5:19,20; Rom. 11:19-23).** **There are also actual examples of those who did regain their salvation (David, Peter, the prodigal, etc.), which prove the point indisputably** The plain truth is: A real present-tense Christian is described in the following:

Not everyone who says to me, "Lord, Lord," will enter the kingdom of heaven, but **only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.** (Mat 7:21)

He replied, "My mother and brothers are those who **hear God's word and put it into practice.**" (Luke 8:21)

My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and **they follow me.** (John 10:27)

Those who have done good will rise to live, and those who have done evil will rise to be condemned. (John 5:29)

If those Scriptures do not describe you NOW, repent for you are in the greatest danger. You are on the road to hell, regardless what you have done in the past or how you were once changed. Just believing you are not lost now will not change the fact that you are!

Exhaustive and detailed research over many years has already been done and carefully compiled in our fully documented 801 page book entitled, *The Believer's Conditional Security*. This is the most complete and powerful refutation to the false gospel of once saved always saved (or eternal security) ever written. It contains all the material mentioned here and in much more detail. Exact documentation is also given. Order now and receive FREE related materials and prompt shipment. GOD BLESS YOU.

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