

## Eternal Security

(passages written out at end of study) [For more lectures on this subject visit our website at www.gciweb.org](http://www.gciweb.org)

**That doctrine which assures us that our salvation cannot be lost by any act on our part and will not be lost by any act on God's part – that it is eternal in nature and as such without end.**

**The problem is that people on both sides argue what they "believe" based on their reasoning. This is not the issue. The issue is not what you consider reasonable, just, unjust, merciful or gracious but rather the issue is what God has decreed on this subject, irrespective of our personal feelings or reasonings.**

Introduction:

- A. We differentiate between Eternal Life and Eternal Security
1. It is technically irrelevant to ask someone "would you like to live eternally?" for all souls are eternal.
  2. Rather the more specific question, "Where will you spend eternity?" is correct.
  3. All souls are by their created nature eternal and as such will spend eternity in one of two places – in heaven or in hell.
  4. The question of Eternal Security deals not with the eternal nature of the soul but rather the eternal nature of our salvation
    - a. First: Having been saved, can we lose this salvation through our actions here on earth.
    - b. Second: Having entered heaven, can we like Adam be expelled.
- B. The Doctrine of Eternal Security purifies motives in all areas of Christian conduct; while the sister Doctrine of Election/Predestination purifies motives in all areas of evangelism and ministry. – John 14:15, 21, 23, 24

Eternal Security	Losing Your Salvation
Salvation by God's choice	Salvation by man's choice
Grace	Sin
Running to God	Running from Hell
Assurance	Doubt
Love	Fear

- C. Those who reject – the stumbling block is Christ
1. Deism – Man can unify under the banner of "good works" done for a undefined deity.
    - a. Example: Association of University Ministers and our dues
    - b. Example: The Evangelical Church and Political Allies
      - 1.) We can ally ourselves with Catholics around the issue of abortion as long as we do not discuss Christ, for Christ is divisive
      - 2.) We can ally ourselves with Mormons around issues of drunkenness, addictions and family values as long as we do not discuss Christ, for Christ is divisive

Gal 5:11  
11 But I, brethren, if I still preach circumcision, why am I still persecuted? Then the stumbling block of the cross has been abolished.
  2. Spiritist – Man can unify under the shared experiences of mystical and ecstatic spiritist worship.
    - a. Example: The Charismatic and Pentecostal movements
      - 1.) How is it that a...
        - Catholic who prays to Mary and believes that Christ must be re-sacrifice in the Mass where the wafer and wine become the literal blood and body of Jesus;
        - Anglican homosexual priest;
        - Church of Christ pastor who believes in baptismal regeneration;
        - Lutheran priest who believes that babies are baptized into the body of Christ;

Orthodox priest who believes that asceticism and suffering in this world makes up for the suffering that is lacking in Christ;

- 2.) how is it that God the Holy Spirit honors all these erroneous teachings about Christ and His work of salvation and fills them with the Spirit while passing by those who believe correctly about Christ?
- 3.) We can ally ourselves in worship with Catholics, Anglicans, Church of Christ, Lutherans, Orthodox and more as long as we do not discuss Jesus, for Christ is divisive.

1 Cor 1:22-23

22 For indeed Jews ask for signs, and Greeks search for wisdom;

23 but we preach Christ crucified, to Jews a stumbling block, and to Gentiles foolishness,

### 3. Christ and the accompanying doctrines of Salvation

1 Pet 2:7-8

7 This precious value, then, is for you who believe. But for those who disbelieve, "The stone which the builders rejected, this became the very corner stone,"

8 and, "A stone of stumbling and a rock of offense"; for they stumble because they are disobedient to the word, and to this doom they were also appointed.

## II. The Nature of Sin: Total Depravity – Romans 3:10 – 12

### A. Sin kills – Romans 6:16; James 1:15

1. This is an absolute event specific doctrinal reality.
2. Sin is not rust
3. Sin is not a cumulative poison
4. Sin in terms of separation from God is neither an issue of quality nor quantity

### B. It only takes one sin to kill – James 2:10

1. Before Adam sinned in taking the fruit from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil how many sins had he committed, how many mistakes had he made?
2. How many sins did it take Adam to commit for him to be separated from God, to be cursed of God and expelled from the Garden?
3. Before cursing Adam and expelling him from the garden did God first take into account Adam's long history of sinless behavior?
4. The death sentence of sin is not mitigated by your historical time line. Like murder, neither the past nor the future are important but only the present.
5. If you could lose your salvation, how long would it take.

### C. We are born sinful – Romans 5:18 & 19

1. We are not sinful because we sin
2. Rather we sin because we are sinful
3. We are not Rousseau's clean slate at birth which becomes marred by time.
4. The purity of the child, the undefiled childlike wisdom, the child as an angel, these are all the stuff of folktales and mythology – in reality all are born with the imputed sin of Adam.
5. Simply because we are not committing a sin does not mean that we are not sinful
6. The old argument, "Go one minute, Go one hour, Go one day..." Is flawed in that just because you are not at this moment manifesting anger, or lust, or envy does not mean you are not an angry or lustful or envious person.

7. Even if a man were able to live a good life by managing to not overtly manifest the sin that rests within him, he would still go to hell on the basis of the sinful appetites which wage war in his fallen flesh.

**D. As such we are enslaved to satan – Ephesians 2:1 & 2**

1. Demonic possession is a matter of semantics
2. No one, apart from the grace of God can accept Christ as Savior – II Corinthians 4:4 – 6
3. That is why we do not argue or fight with pagans. II Timothy 2:24 - 26
4. In evangelism two things must happen II Timothy 2:26
  - a. God must grant repentance
  - b. God must free men from satan

**E. God’s standard, on the other hand, is perfection – Matthew 5:48**

1. The shirt illustration
2. The picture window illustration
3. The Relative Goodness Graph Illustration

**F. No amount of good works added to our lives negates the presence of sin. Good works do not change the past and are of no value in salvation. Jeremiah 2:22; 13:33**

1. The Test Tube, Beaker, Truck, Ocean illustration N2 and Carbon Atom
2. Remember, with God the issue is not dilution but rather perfection.
3. On a cross country trip the Highway Patrolman is not interested in the fact that you have driven the speed limit faithfully for two days and intend to continue for the next three driving the speed limit. The issue is what you were doing at that specific time.
4. In the same way the insurance agent, when he raises your rates, does so because of the blemish, not the big picture.

**G. Sin by its nature is abhorrent to God and must be judged – Ezekiel 18:4; Hebrews 9:27.**

1. Who is in charge of Hell? Who is carrying out the punishment of Hell?
2. Does it, will it distress Jesus that God is doing this? Will there forever be a melancholy side of Jesus because not all people accepted Him, because He was not able to save all mankind?
3. Is Hell bad? Is it bad that people are in Hell?
4. Is God doing something bad by torturing people in Hell?
5. Do we desire to raise non-Christians from the dead who are in Hell?
6. When we are doing evangelism are we protecting people from God, are we saving them from God?
7. In God’s value system His judgment in neither bad nor grievous to Him
8. Many people by temperament simply do not like to discipline nor punish sin. As a result we impute this same weakness to God.
9. Many people forget that simply because vengeance, wrath, anger, judgment and unforgiveness are forbidden to us, that these attributes are neither sinful nor foreign to God.
10. Unlike man, God will not hesitate to judge sin. If there is a single sin in your life God will not hesitate to send you to Hell for eternity. Hebrews 10:30, 31

**H. Conclusion: Hopeless Estate**

Examples: We can see this in the great hymns of the church (It is an interesting aside that the “worship songs” of the charismatic movement are almost universally devoid of the doctrines of Depravity; Death; The Grave; Hell; Blood; Repentance; The Exclusivity of Christ – for Christ is divisive.

*“Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, Let this blest assurance control, That Christ has regarded my helpless estate, And hath shed His own blood for my soul.”*

Just as I am, without one plea,  
 But that Thy blood was shed for me,  
 And that Thou bidst me come to Thee,  
 O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

*Nothing can for sin atone,*  
*Nothing but the blood of Jesus;*  
*Naught of good that I have done,*  
*Nothing but the blood of Jesus*  
 Refrain

*This is all my hope and peace*  
*Nothing but the blood of Jesus*  
*This is all my righteousness*  
*Nothing but the blood of Jesus*  
 Refrain

Come, ye sinners, poor and needy,  
 Weak and wounded, sick and sore;  
 Jesus ready stands to save you,  
 Full of pity, love and power.

Let not conscience make you linger,  
Not of fitness fondly dream;  
 All the fitness He requireth  
 Is to feel your need of Him.

*Upon that cross of Jesus mine eye at times can see*  
*The very dying form of One who suffered there for me;*  
*And from my smitten heart with tears, tow wonders I confess*  
*The wonders of His glorious love and my own worthlessness*

*I take, O cross, the shadow for my abiding place;*  
*I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of His face;*  
*Content to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,*  
*My sinful self my only shame, my glory all the cross.*

Sin and despair, like the sea waves cold, Threaten the soul with infinite loss;  
 Grace that is greater, yes, grace untold, Points to the refuge, the mighty cross.

Dark is the stain that we cannot hide, What can avail to wash it away?  
 Look! There is flowing a crimson tide; Whiter than snow you may be today.

**EphEphesians 2:1-3**

- 1 And you were dead in your trespasses and sins,**
- 2 in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience.**
- 3 Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest.**

**EphEphesians 2:12**

*12 remember that you were at that time separate from Christ, excluded from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.*

**JerJeremiah 18:11-12**

*11 "So now then, speak to the men of Judah and against the inhabitants of Jerusalem saying, 'Thus says the LORD, "Behold, I am fashioning calamity against you and devising a plan against you. Oh turn back, each of you from his evil way, and reform your ways and your deeds."'"*

*12 "But they will say, 'It's hopeless! For we are going to follow our own plans, and each of us will act according to the stubbornness of his evil heart.'*

1. Unregenerate man is totally depraved, incapable of choosing good over evil, under the just judgment of God and destined for Hell. As such he is both helpless in terms of his will and hopeless in terms of his destiny.
2. Once saved, if man could lose his salvation he most certainly would. Unless our salvation is eternal in nature it is a divine tragedy, for no man, once saved will remain saved.
3. Once in heaven, if man could be cast out as Satan from heaven or Adam from the garden, he most certainly would. One by one heaven would be depopulated until it was empty.
4. If man could lose his salvation the terms "salvation" and "heaven" become judgmental rather than redemptive in nature – just another example of the justness of God's wrath in the face of man's irresponsibility. (In answer to the question, "Can those in heaven lose their salvation?" the answer is "No". For Satan is bound in Hell and God has fixed a chasm which no man can cross. Both heaven and hell are eternal. Luke 16:26)
5. If man could lose his salvation he most certainly would – we are either all going to heaven or we are all going to Hell.

### III. The Nature of Salvation

#### A. Regeneration

1. John 1:13
2. John 3:3
3. I Peter 1:3
4. II Corinthians 5:17
5. Nowhere does the Word of God reference the concept of “spiritual abortion” of man being unborn.
6. To be saved entails more than embracing a lifestyle or confessing a creed – it entails being “born again” which is a uniquely and expressly a spiritual transformation, a miracle.
7. In the same way to loose your salvation is not simply a manner of rejecting a lifestyle or creed but rather would entail an equally spiritual and miraculous event, that being “unborn again” by God. No such event is spoken of in Scripture.

#### B. Eternal: To speak of loosing your salvation in the face of the “eternal” nature of both our salvation and the benefits of our salvation is nonsensical

1. Definition: Existing without interruption, into the future, without end.
  - a. If conditions are attached to it then it is not “eternal” but rather both “conditional” and “temporal” in nature
  - b. Thus by definition the very discussion is nonsensical

Statement	Nonsensical Response
Dr: You have a healthy baby	Man: Is the baby dead?
Merchant: The bill is paid in full	Man: How much do I owe?
Dr: The operation was a success	Man: Should we begin plans for the funeral?
Judge: We find the defendant not guilty	Man: How long will I spend in jail?
Jesus: I give you eternal life and no one shall ever snatch you out of my hand.	Man: Can I loose my salvation?

2. The salvation and its attributes are all of an eternal nature.
  - a. Life – Romans 6:22 & 23
  - b. Weight of glory – II Corinthians 4:17
  - c. Salvation – Hebrews 5:9
  - d. Redemption – Hebrews 9:12
  - e. Inheritance – Hebrews 9:15
  - f. Covenant – Hebrews 13:20
  - g. Kingdom – II Peter 1:11
  - h. Dwelling – II Corinthians 5:1
  - i. Reign – Revelation 22:3 – 5
  - j. Fellowship – John 10:29; 14:16

#### C. The Definition of Grace – Ephesians 2:8 & 9

1. The inherent problem with the “Scales” when it comes to our fate is that it doesn’t work.
2. We have to think and plan for good works to go on one side, but we by our very nature are constantly adding to the other without thinking or planning ahead.
3. You have to plan ahead for most good deeds but you are angry, greedy, envious, lustful, jealous, impatient and more, every day without any planning or forethought.

#### D. The Definition of Mercy – Titus 3:5

1. Problem with the “Fairness Doctrine”
2. We do not want God to be fair, if God is fair then we all go to Hell.
3. The reason people think they (or rather others) can loose their salvation is that they think it is only “fair” given the sacrifices they have made that they go to heaven.

4. Thus in the light of these sacrifices it is supremely unfair that those who are perceived as unworthy in their eyes should not go to Hell.
5. The problem being that entrance into heaven is based not on our sacrifices but on Christ's sacrifice.
6. Similarly it is not that eternal security makes provision for some who are unworthy to unfairly enter heaven but rather any provision of salvation at all makes provision for those who are supremely unworthy to unfairly enter heaven at the expense of another – Jesus Christ.

**Romans 5:8-9** *“But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him.”*

**E. The Qualitative Nature of Christ's Sacrifice – I Peter 2:24; Hebrews 10:18**

2. You must commit a sin that is more evil than Christ's blood is righteous
3. Joe Izzy – “The power of the vileness of your sin must over come that of the power of the resurrection of Christ”

**F. Propitiation – Romans 3:25; I John 2:2; 4:10**

1. Total satisfaction as opposed to atonement.
2. What if you forget to confess a sin? What happens to unconfessed sin?
3. As a result we never ask ourselves “What bad thing will God do to me because of my sin?”
4. Nor do we reflect on the sister questions, “What sacrifices can I now make to blunt God's actions toward my sin?”
5. Taken from saga of Troy.
6. Nothing we do will make God love us more
7. Nothing we do will make God love us less
8. The “time line” of our salvation (Isaiah 53:6 – When was our sin imputed to Christ?)

**IV. The Nature of God**

**A. Election/Predestination – Ephesians 1:4, 5, 9, 11**

1. Just as Eternal Security purifies motives in the area of ~~Sanctification~~Sanctification in terms of moral conduct; Election/Predestination purifies motives in the area of ministry. I
  - a. In both cases we are left ~~with~~with the motive of the Love of God and the Glory of God rather than the earning or preserving of our salvation.
  - b. If the sister doctrines Eternal Security and Election are true then the only motives you are left in terms of conduct and ~~ministry~~ministry are the sister motives of the Love of God and Glory of God.
  - c. The response, “If I don't have to do these things to be saved or to get God to love me, then why am I doing them?” both reveals sinful motives and allows you to purify your corrupt values and truly express your devotion to God in terms of your love for Him and your desire to bring glory to His name.
  - d. These twin doctrines free you from “dead works” doing acts to get God to love you, to procure your salvation or to preserve your salvation and allow you to engage in “good works” those acts done as an expression of your love for God that glory might be brought to His name.
2. In ~~Ephesians~~Ephesians 1: 4 – 6, what is the purpose of the Doctrine of Predestination/Election?

~~Eph~~**Ephesians 1:4-6**

**4** *just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before Him. In love*

**5** *He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will,*

**6** *to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.*

3. In Ephesians 1:9 – 12 what is the purpose of the Doctrine of Predestination/Election?

Ephesians 1:9-12

9 *He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him*

10 *with a view to an administration suitable to the fulness of the times, that is, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things upon the earth. In Him*

11 *also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will,*

12 *to the end that we who were the first to hope in Christ should be to the praise of His glory.*

4. In Acts 13

a. Who believed

b. What is the purpose of the Doctrine of Predestination/Election?

Acts 13:46-48

46 *And Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly and said, "It was necessary that the word of God should be spoken to you first; since you repudiate it, and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the Gentiles.*

47 *"For thus the Lord has commanded us, 'I have placed You as a light for the Gentiles, that you should bring salvation to the end of the earth.'"*

48 *And when the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord; and as many as had been appointed to eternal life believed.*

4. I made the decision to receive Christ and I can make the decision to reject Christ

5. I made the decision to follow Christ and I can make the decision to turn back

6. God makes His decisions concerning salvation

a. Not with the past in mind "I was too bad"

b. Not with the present in mind "I am not good enough"

c. Not with the future in mind "I can commit a sin which will cause me to lose my salvation"

d. But rather on the basis of the eternal counsels and decisions of His own nature for His glory.

e. Many Christians recoil at this for they view doing something for one's own glory to be prideful and vain and as a result sinful. Remember though that there are many attributes and actions of God which are sinful for man, forbidden to man but perfectly right for God. We are forbidden to engage in pride and vain glory, not because seeking glory is in itself sinful but because all glory must rightfully go to God. Thus for God to do something to bring Himself glory is simply that which is as should be, while when man does this he takes something that is rightfully due God for himself.

7.5 Because this doctrine strikes at the heart of the pride of man it has from the beginning been a stumbling block.

*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."*

*John 6:39 "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."*

*John 6:44 "No one can come to Me, unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day."*

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**John 6:65** “*And He was saying, "For this reason I have said to you, that no one can come to Me, unless it has been granted him from the Father."*

**John 6:66** “*As a result of this many of His disciples withdrew, and were not walking with Him anymore.*”

6. The argument by those who feel you can loose your salvation:
  - a. I made the decision to receive Christ and I can make the decision to reject Christ
  - b. I made the decision to follow Christ and I can make the decision to turn back
7. God makes His decisions concerning salvation
  - a. Not with the past in mind “I was too bad”
  - b. Not with the present in mind “I am not good enough”
  - c. Not with the future in mind “I can commit a sin which will cause me to loose my salvation”
  - d. But rather on the basis of the eternal counsels and decisions of His own nature for His glory.
  - e. Many Christians recoil at this for they view doing something for ones own glory to be prideful and vain and as a result sinful. Remember though that there are many attributes and actions of God which are sinful for man, forbidden to man but perfectly right for God. We are forbidden to engage in pride and vain glory, not because seeking glory is in itself sinful but because all glory must rightfully go to God. Thus for God to do something to bring Himself glory is simply that which is as should be, while when man does this he takes something that is rightfully due God for himself.

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<sup>13:8</sup> God does not choose men only to cast them aside.

1Thes 5:8-10

*8 But since we are of the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet, the hope of salvation.*

*9 For God has not destined us for wrath, but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,*

*10 who died for us, that whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with Him.*

9. The twin ~~doctrines~~ doctrines of Predestination/ Election are expressions of God's love and compassion for without them no mind would be saved nor if saved could any man maintain his salvation.

**Romans 8:33** “*Who will bring a charge against God's elect? God is the one who justifies;*”

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## B. Foreknowledge – Romans 8:29 & 30

1. ~~Foreknowledge~~Foreknowledge ~~neither~~neither negates nor dilutes the doctrines of Predestination/Election.
  - a. ~~Foreknowledge~~Foreknowledge is an expression of one of God's eternal, self-~~existant~~existent attributes: ~~Omnisciance~~Omniscience.
  - b. Election is an act of His ~~soverigns~~sovereign will.
2. God knew all the sins you would ever commit when he saved you.
3. Package deal, all sins paid for 2,000 years ago.
4. Illustration:
5. God recorded your name in the book of life, not only before you were born, but before creation itself.

**Revelation 13:8** “*And all who dwell on the earth will worship him, everyone whose name has not been written from the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who has been slain.*”

**Revelation 17:8** *"The beast that you saw was and is not, and is about to come up out of the abyss and to go to destruction. And those who dwell on the earth will wonder, whose name has not been written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they see the beast, that he was and is not and will come."*

6. Nothing we do will surprise God
  - a. Births surprise men, they do not surprise God Psalm 139:14 - 16
  - b. Decisions surprise men, they do not surprise God. Psalm 139:1 - 4
  - c. Death surprises men, they do not surprise God. Psalm 139:16
  - d. Sins surprise men, they do not surprise God. Isaiah 53:6
  - e. If you were going to commit a sin so heinous that it would cause you to lose your salvation, then God would not have saved you in the first place.

V. Corinthians 3:10 – 15

:14 Reward

:10,11 Jesus

:15 Loss, yet saved

<p><b>:12</b>  <u>Building Materials</u>  <b>Gold / Wood</b>  <b>Silver / Hay</b>  <b>Gems / Stubble</b></p>	<p><u>Qualities of Materials</u>  <b>Eternal / Decaying</b>  <b>Value / Worthless</b>  <b>Beauty / Ugly</b>  <b>Impervious to fire / Destroyed by fire</b></p>	<p><b>:13</b>                  Work, not man                  is tested by fire -                  there is a big dif-                  ference between the two!</p>
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III. Romans 8:1, 28 – 39

A. Guiltless before God, there is nothing to judge.

*†Romans 8:1* “There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.” – As Christians we stand guiltless before God, true there will be a judgment but our verdict is already assured, “Not Guilty”.

1. What about the Judgment Seat of Christ
  - a. Romans 14:10
  - a-b. II Corinthians 5:10
  - b-c. Hebrews 9:27
2. There is a difference between the “judgment” of an athlete and a criminal
  - a. We do not stand before God as criminals – Revelation 20:11 – 15
  - b. Rather we stand before God as athletes – II Timothy 2:5; 4:7 & 8

**STANDING BEFORE THE JUDGE**

Athlete <u>II Tim 2:5; 4:6-8</u>	Criminal <u>Rev:Revelation, 20:11-15</u>
Wants fair judge	Wants crooked judge
Wants to be judged	Wants to avoid being judged
Pays to qualify to be judged	Pays to avoid judgment
Happy to just be there/location & event	Fears even the location and event
Everyone a winner	Everyone a loser

B. First Questions 8:31 & 32 - “If God is for us, who will be against us?”

C. Second Question 8:33 – “Who will bring a charge against God’s elect?”

D. Third Question 8:34 – “Who is the one who condemns?”

E. Fourth Question 8:35 – “Who will separate us from the love of God?”

1. 8:35 – 37
  - a. Physical trials do not separate us from God
  - b. When things go bad it does not mean we have lost our salvation.
2. 8:38 - 39
  - a. The sets containing...
    - 1.) Death / Life
    - 2.) Spiritual beings
    - 3.) Present / Future
    - 4.) Height / Depth
    - 5.) Any created thing (includes you)
  - b. cannot separate you from God.

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**IV. John 10:27 – 30**

- A. The sheep are His (Jesus), they hear His voice and He knows them.**
- B. Jesus gives them eternal life.**
  - 1. They shall never perish
  - 2. No one shall snatch them out of Jesus' hand
- C. The Father has given them to Him.**
  - 1. No one is greater than the Father
  - 2. No one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand.
- D. Jesus and the Father are one.**
- E. Since salvation is not a matter of man's commitment to his salvation but rather God's commitment to man's salvation, our salvation is secure**

**V. Suggested Reading:**

- A. Things Which Become Sound Doctrine**, by J.D. Pentecost; Kregel Press
- B. Major Bible Themes – Walvrod;**
- C. Basic Christian Doctrine – C.F. Henry**
- D. The Potters Freedom, – James R. White**
- A.E. Whatever Happened To The Gospel of Grace – James Boice**

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## VI. Appendix Study “Eternal Life”

### Eternal Security

One kind and one kind of salvation is granted by the blood of Christ – “Eternal”. If it is lost, if it is taken away, then it is not eternal. By this we have security in our salvation

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**ETERNAL** 166 aionios (ah-ee-o'-nee-os); from 165; perpetual (also used of past time, or past and future as well):

**AIONIOS** ^166^ "describes duration, either undefined but not endless, as in <RomRomans. 16:25; 2 Tim. 1:9; Titus 1:2>; or undefined because endless as in <RomRomans. 16:26>, and the other sixty-six places in the NT.

"The predominant meaning of aionios, that in which it is used everywhere in the NT, save the places noted above, may be seen in <2 Cor. 4:18>, where it is set in contrast with proskairos, lit., 'for a season,' and in <Philem. 15>, where only in the NT it is used without a noun. Moreover it is used of persons and things which are in their nature endless, as, e. g., of God, <RomRomans. 16:26>; of His power, <1 Tim. 6:16>, and of His glory, <1 Pet. 5:10>; of the Holy Spirit, <HebHebrews. 9:14>; of the redemption effected by Christ, <HebHebrews. 9:12>, and of the consequent salvation of men, <5:9>, as well as of His future rule, <2 Pet. 1:11>, which is elsewhere declared to be without end, <Luke 1:33>; of the life received by those who believe in Christ, <John 3:16>, concerning whom He said, 'they shall never perish,' <10:28>, and of the resurrection body, <2 Cor. 5:1>, elsewhere said to be 'immortal,' <1 Cor. 15:53>, in which that life will be finally realized, <Matt. 25:46; Titus 1:2>.

"Aionios is also used of the sin that 'hath never forgiveness,' <Mark 3:29>, and of the judgment of God, from which there is no appeal, <HebHebrews. 6:2>, and of the fire, which is one of its instruments, <Matt. 18:8; 25:41; Jude 7>, and which is elsewhere said to be 'unquenchable,' <Mark 9:43>.

"The use of aionios here shows that the punishment referred to in <2 Thes. 1:9>, is no temporary, but final, and, accordingly, the phraseology shows that its purpose is not remedial but retributive."

(from Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words)

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#### John 3:14-16

**14** "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up;

**15** that whoever believes may in Him have eternal life.

**16** "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.

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#### John 4:14

**14** but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life."

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#### John 5:24

**24** "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life.

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#### John 6:27-29

**27** "Do not work for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man shall give to you, for on Him the Father, even God, has set His seal."

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28 They said therefore to Him, "What shall we do, that we may work the works of God?"

29 Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He has sent."

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John 6:40

40 "For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who beholds the Son and believes in Him, may have eternal life; and I Myself will raise him up on the last day."

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John 6:47

47 "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes has eternal life."

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John 6:54

54 "He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day."

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John 10:27-29

27 "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me;

28 and I give eternal life to them, and they shall never perish; and no one shall snatch them out of My hand.

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29 "My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand."

John 17:1-3

1 These things Jesus spoke; and lifting up His eyes to heaven, He said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify Thy Son, that the Son may glorify Thee,

2 even as Thou gavest Him authority over all mankind, that to all whom Thou hast given Him, He may give eternal life."

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3 "And this is eternal life, that they may know Thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom Thou hast sent."

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Acts 13:48

48 And when the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord; and as many as had been appointed to eternal life believed."

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~~Rom~~Romans 5:20-21

20 And the Law came in that the transgression might increase; but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more,

21 that, as sin reigned in death, even so grace might reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

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~~Rom~~Romans 6:22-23

22 But now having been freed from sin and enslaved to God, you derive your benefit, resulting in sanctification, and the outcome, eternal life."

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23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

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**1 Tim 1:16**

16 *And yet for this reason I found mercy, in order that in me as the foremost, Jesus Christ might demonstrate His perfect patience, as an example for those who would believe in Him for eternal life.*

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**Heb Hebrews 5:9**

9 *And having been made perfect, He became to all those who obey Him the source of eternal salvation.*

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**Heb Hebrews 9:11-12**

11 *But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things to come, He entered through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this creation;*

12 *and not through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood, He entered the holy place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption.*

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**Heb Hebrews 9:15**

15 *And for this reason He is the mediator of a new covenant, in order that since a death has taken place for the redemption of the transgressions that were committed under the first covenant, those who have been called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.*

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**I Jn John 1:1-3**

1 *What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we beheld and our hands handled, concerning the Word of Life--*

2 *and the life was manifested, and we have seen and bear witness and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was manifested to us--*

3 *what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also, that you also may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ.*

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**I Jn John 2:25**

25 *And this is the promise which He Himself made to us: eternal life.*

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**I Jn John 5:11-13**

11 *And the witness is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son.*

12 *He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life.*

13 *These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, in order that you may know that you have eternal life.*

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**I Jn John 5:20**

20 *And we know that the Son of God has come, and has given us understanding, in order that we might know Him who is true, and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life.*

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**Jude 1:21**

21 *keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting anxiously for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to eternal life.*

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