

A STUDY IN ETERNAL SECURITY

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A STUDY IN ETERNAL SECURITY

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INTRODUCTION

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Eternal security is the theological term that precisely and accurately expresses the Bible doctrine of eternal salvation that every born again child of God possesses in the Lord Jesus Christ. Many professing Christians use the phrase “once saved, always saved” to refer to the theological doctrine of Eternal Security. “Once saved, always saved” is an accurate description of what true Bible believing salvation is. “Once saved, always saved”, is also a much abused phrase that is used to justify the ungodly acts of those who have made false professions of faith and show no evidence of having exercised saving faith. They have never repented after a Godly sort because God the Holy Ghost is not in them! Many of the unsaved members in our Baptist churches use the “Once saved, always saved” doctrine to justify what they call backsliding. If the salvation that you claim to have has not changed you, then you are still on your way to an eternally burning lake of fire. Salvation changes people. Eternal security is not a license to sin. Eternal Security does not promote the Antinomian heresy that states that once a person is saved they have no obligation to be obey God’s moral laws. Antinomianism is the heresy that is being promoted today in some Independent Baptist churches by a group of apostates that calls itself “Recovering Fundamentalists”. The “Recovering Fundamentalists” mock the old time way and reject Biblical standards of conduct and dress. God describes the Recovering (?!?) Fundamentalists in *Jeremiah 6:16-17*:

¹⁶Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where *is* the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk *therein*. ¹⁷Also I set watchmen over you, *saying*, Hearken to the sound of the trumpet. But they said, We will not hearken. *Jeremiah 6:16-17*

The Biblical old paths require faith and repentance as conditions for salvation. Faith and repentance is the ROCK solid foundation upon which Eternal Security is built. As soon as a lost sinner receives the Lord Jesus Christ, they are in possession of what the Bible calls eternal or everlasting life. To have Christ is to enter into an everlasting covenant with God the Son and God the Father that is sealed by God the Holy Ghost from the moment the sinner exercises saving faith *1 John 5:10-13* says this:

¹⁰ He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son. ¹¹ And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. ¹² He that hath the Son hath life; *and* he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. ¹³ These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God. *1 John 5:10-13*

It is a KNOW SO salvation: “these things have I written unto you....that ye may know”! It is a KNOW SO salvation because the moment an unbeliever puts their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ they

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are baptized with the Holy Ghost. It is at that very moment that the Spirit permanently inhabits the believer and bears witness to their spirit that they are a child of God (*Romans 8:16*). On the topic before us Pastor Robert Sargent had this to say:

“Sadly, there are many people — including Christians — who have no real assurance of salvation. Regrettably, there are others (especially those within the “holiness movement”) who teach the real possibility of personal apostasy, that a child of God can actually lose his salvation. A refrain to a song entitled ‘I Am Determined’ (taken from the “Pentecostal Praises” song book) has these words:

*“I am determined to hold out to the end,
Jesus Is with me, on Him I can depend,
And I know I have salvation, for I feel It In my soul,
I am determined to hold out to the end.”*

A faith in Christ that is conditional — which requires “living up to it” or “holding out faithful to the end” — is NOT saving faith. An assurance of salvation based upon “feeling it in my soul” is a very shaky assurance to say the least. The eternal security of the believer rests solely upon the Word of God. We are saved now and forever because of what Christ has done for us and in us, and we are assured because the transaction is in writing.”¹

Amen! That transaction that is in writing is the King James Bible we hold in our hands.

The Bible does not use the phrase “*Eternal Security*” to describe the believer’s relationship to the Lord Jesus Christ, but it leaves absolutely no doubt that a “born again” child of God is saved for ever in the Lord Jesus Christ. Eternal security is a theological term that refers to the Biblical condition that results from anyone exercising faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and repenting of their sin. Faith is the father of salvation and repentance is the mother of salvation. Faith and repentance come together in holy matrimony to produce a “*born again*” child of God. If either faith or repentance is missing in an individual, then that individual is a false professor who is an illegitimate child of the Devil. *Hebrews 12:8* refers to these illegitimate children as bastards because they have not THE spiritual Father. Our churches are chock full of men, women, and children that have prayed faithless “sinners prayers”. Proof that their prayers were faithless is that there is no evidence of repentance in their lives. If you have not repented, then you never exercised saving faith. If you have not repented, then you are still on your way to hell. If you have exercised saving faith, then you will repent. You cannot help but repent because repentance is the gift of the Holy Ghost to all those who exercise saving faith. Repentance is something that is in you. If faith is in you, God the Holy Ghost will work repentance out of you. Repentance is God’s proof to you that you have not received a counterfeit

¹Landmarks of Baptist Doctrine, Book III; page 515; Pastor Robert Sargent; Bible Baptist Church Publications, Oak Harbor, Washington.

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salvation. An eternal security that is not based in Biblical faith and repentance is a fire breathing false God that is birthed in the pits of hell.

Tragically, in many of our churches, the Satanic application of the otherwise Biblical doctrine of eternal security is a lie of the Devil that is latched onto by those who have made faithless false professions that have never changed the way they live. The problem for them is that they have NEVER, EVER become the new creature of *2 Corinthians 5:17* which states:

¹⁷ Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. *2 Corinthians 5:17*

Salvation changes folks. If you have not been changed, then you are not saved. God does not leave people in the sin he saved them in. There is no Eternal Security for you if you have not been changed. If you have not been changed, then you are still on the way to an eternally burning hell fire. Eternal Security is not for unbelieving religious professors who have never been saved to start with. Eternal Security and Backsliding are the heretical Baptist fall guys for every imaginable sin and abomination that is habitually committed by reprobate church members who have prayed faithless “sinner’s prayers” and then been pronounced saved by some deceived individual who is falsely called a soul winner. The “sinner’s prayer” has become the Nehushtan of New Testament churches. Unbelieving “sinner’s prayers” are the witches’ brew that has been put into the needles that are used to inoculate countless lost people to the Gospel. Warning, faithless, unsaved religious professors walk and live in *Matthew 7:21-23* which says:

²¹ 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. ²² Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? ²³ And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity. *Matthew 7:21–23*

Many years ago, I worked with a lady who was a strong advocate of the doctrine that states that you can lose your salvation. Her oft repeated sentiment went something like this, “You Baptists that believe in eternal security believe that you can get saved and live like the Devil”. I told her, no, I do not believe that because anyone who claims salvation and continues to live in sin has never been saved to start with. They are a child of Satan. Period! Eternal Security is not for faithless lost sinners that live in sin and that show no evidence of having repented. A truly born again Christian cannot lose their salvation or give it back. Since God will not accept our works for salvation, it is a cinch that he will not allow us to keep our salvation by works! In the life of a Bible believing Christian, sin does not break relationship with God. Sin breaks fellowship with God.

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WHAT IS EVERLASTING LIFE? WHAT IS ETERNAL LIFE?

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Eternal Security is based in part on the Bible doctrine of “*everlasting life*” or “*eternal life*”. Since the Bible uses the terms “*everlasting life*” and “*eternal life*” to describe the fact of salvation, the obvious must be stated here. For the believer, the terms “*everlasting*” and “*eternal*” are always in the present tense. That means that “*eternal life*” and “*everlasting life*” are always present possessions. Having had “*eternal life*” or “*everlasting life*” is an impossibility that rests in a contradiction of logic. It floats in a foundation of quicksand. The phrase “*everlasting life*” is used 11 times in 11 verses in our Bibles. All but one of those is in the New Testament and that one is in *Daniel 12:2* where it is used strictly in a prophetic context. The phrase “*eternal life*” is used 26 times in 26 verses in our Bibles. All of those are in the New Testament. The phrase “*life eternal*” is used four times in our Bibles. All of those are in the new Testament. The phrase “*life everlasting*” is used four times in our Bibles. All of those are in the New Testament. The fact that all 45 passages are placed in a context outside the Old Testament is a message in itself. Before we move on, we need to understand that there is a difference between the words “*eternal*” and “*everlasting*”.

If we look up the words “*eternal*” and “*everlasting*” in an Oxford English Dictionary (OED) we will see the definitions are different. Distinguishing the terms is critical especially when we are studying the deity of the Godhead in terms of time. If a presumed deity is not eternal, he cannot be God. In our culture, in America in 2026, we tend to use the two words “*eternal*” and “*everlasting*” interchangeably, but they are different. A short definition of eternal would be “*having no beginning and no ending*”. A one word definition of eternal would be “timeless”. We often speak of eternity past and eternity future. When God said in *Exodus 3:14* that he is “**I AM**”, he is stating that he is the timeless “Self-Existent One”. He exists outside the bounds of time. The Lord Jesus Christ applied that divine attribute to himself when he said in *John 8:58*: “Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I AM”. Now, a short definition of everlasting would be “*having a beginning in time with no ending*”. I like to think of time as the space between two different events. On August 21 of 2026, at 77 years old, I will have been saved for 34 years. In recent years I have been trying to figure out why the King James translators used the words “*eternal life*” in some places and the words “*everlasting life*” in others to describe what we call salvation. Just when I think I might have it figured out, I have to go back and study it again. The two words are used together in *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 whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have **eternal life**. ¹⁶ For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have **everlasting life**. *John 3:14-16*

Let me take a stab at it. In verse 16, we have “*everlasting life*” because there was a specific point in time when the believer received eternal life. That specific point in time when they started living an

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everlasting life was the day they were saved. In verse 15 we have eternal life. Eternal life is the Son of God himself. Without getting into an extended discussion of the aspects of the Incarnation, the Son of God is an eternal being. We call him the Eternal Son. The son of God has always been ETERNAL LIFE. It is one of his attributes. He is ETERNAL LIFE from everlasting to everlasting. The Lord Jesus Christ is literally the manifestation, the embodiment, and the essence of eternal life. *Hebrews 5:9* says the following in speaking of the Son of God: “ And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;”. Only an eternal being can be the Author of eternal salvation. The Eternal Son of God became the everlasting God-Man when he was made flesh. Yes, I did say everlasting. Have you ever thought about why the Holy Ghost referred to the Lord Jesus Christ as “**THE EVERLASTING FATHER**” in *Isaiah 9:6*? Think about it. See also *John 1:14, 1 Timothy 3:16, Zechariah 12:10, and Revelation 1:7*.

⁶For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. *Isaiah 9:6*

¹⁴And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth. *John 1:14*

¹⁶And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory. *1 Timothy 3:16*

¹⁰And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for *his* only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for *his* firstborn. *Zechariah 12:10*

⁷Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they *also* which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen. *Revelation 1:7*

Now, let us continue with our study of eternal security by asking the following question.

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WHAT ROLE DOES BEING “BORN AGAIN” TAKE IN ETERNAL SECURITY?

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Does the theological doctrine of eternal security mean anyone who claims to be saved is saved, regardless of whether they show any evidence of having become a born again new creature?

The answer to that question would be a resounding NO. Salvation requires a new birth that produces a new man that is a new creature. I am about to read several extended passages of Scripture. As I read them, I want you to ask yourself, am I born again, and am I that new man or woman that has become new creature? Let us begin by reading *John 3:3-8*:

³ Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. ⁴ Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? ⁵ Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. ⁶ That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. ⁸ The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit. *John 3:3-8*

John 3:3-8 is where it all begins for the unbeliever. Ye must be born again. The Lord Jesus Christ makes it clear to Nicodemus that he is not talking about a physical rebirth. He makes it clear that which is born of the flesh is flesh and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. That which is born of water is the natural physical man and that which is born of the Spirit is the saved, new spiritual man; that new creature. That spiritual man is the born again Christian. He or she is that new creature that has experienced the “washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost” that is the work of the Spirit. See Titus 3:5. Ye must be born again. Have you been born again? There is an old saying that states “*born twice die once, born once die twice*”. According to *Revelation 20:14-15*, there is coming a time when death and hell will be cast into the lake of fire. That casting into the lake of fire is called the second death. Whosoever is not found in the book of life will be cast into that lake of fire. I ask again. Have you been born again? If you have been born again, the Holy Ghost is going to work in you to conform you to the image of the Lord Jesus Christ. It is a lifelong battle that is pitched from the moment you are saved. I have a question for those who believe you can lose your salvation. How can you be unborn?

Before we go any further, I want to partially define from the Oxford English Dictionary (OED) two King James words that most folks have a problem understanding because they do not know their definitions. Those words are “concupiscence” and “lasciviousness”

CONCUPISCENCE: Eager or vehement desire, the coveting of carnal things, desire for “things of the world”, libidinous desire, sexual appetite, lust [Libidinous means to be totally given over to lewdness].

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LASCIVIOUS(NESS): Inclined to lust, lewd, wanton, inciting to lust or wantonness. [Wantonness is the total abandonment of all restraint in all things evil]

We will now look at three passages of Scripture that compare and contrast the born again new man with the old man. These passages are *Romans 6:1-14*, *Ephesians 4:17-24*, and *Colossians 3:5-14*:

¹ What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? ² God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? ³ Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? ⁴ Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, **even so we also should walk in newness of life.** ⁵ For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also *in the likeness* of *his* resurrection: ⁶ Knowing this, **that our old man is crucified with him,** that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. ⁷ For he that is dead is freed from sin. ⁸ Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him: ⁹ Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him. ¹⁰ For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God. ¹¹ Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. ¹² Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. ¹³ Neither yield ye your members *as* instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members *as* instruments of righteousness unto God. ¹⁴ For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace. *Romans 6:1-14*

¹⁷ This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, ¹⁸ Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart: ¹⁹ Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness. ²⁰ But ye have not so learned Christ; ²¹ If so be that ye have heard him, and have been taught by him, as the truth is in Jesus: ²² **That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man,** which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; ²³ And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; ²⁴ **And that ye put on the new man,** which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness. *Ephesians 4:17-24*

⁵ Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry: ⁶ For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience: ⁷ In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them. ⁸ But now ye also put off all

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these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth. ⁹ **Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;** ¹⁰ **And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:** ¹¹ Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond *nor* free: but Christ *is* all, and in all. ¹² Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; ¹³ Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also *do ye*. ¹⁴ And above all these things *put on* charity, which is the bond of perfectness. *Colossians 3:5-14*

If you look at each of these passages, you will see over and over again that the emphasis is on **“taking off the old man and putting on the new man”**. If the Holy Ghost is not in you, you have absolutely no power to **“take off the old man and put on the new man”** because you are under control of the spirit of bondage (*Romans 8:15*). The problem with those who are still under the control of the spirit of bondage is that they have never been made free by receiving the Lord Jesus Christ as their Saviour. Both the Lord Jesus Christ and the Apostle Paul dealt with the issue of being made free. See *John 8:30-59* and *Romans 6:15-23*. **Until you exercise saving faith, the Holy Ghost will never be in you. You will continue to be absolutely powerless to put off the old man. You will continue to be in bondage to your sin nature. If you do not put off the old man that is in bondage to sin, you will die in your sin and go to hell and then be cast into the lake of fire to burn for eternity.** If you have not put your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, you are still the old man, and you are still under the wrath and condemnation of God. *John 3:36* states this:

³⁶ He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him. *John 3:36*

Returning to *Romans 6:1-14*, in the baptism of a born again believer, we see a picture of the death, burial, and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. The apostle Paul gives us a heads up warning in *Romans 6:1-14* that we will face a battle with sin. Paul goes on in *Romans 7:4-25* to tell us about his personal battle with his sin nature. That battle is the new man fighting the old man. When we get saved, our flesh does not get saved. Our spirit gets saved. That whole concept is critical when you study the book of *1 John*. I say that now because later on we will deal with the presentation of sin in *1 John* where we find perhaps the strongest passage in the New Testament dealing with why the believer cannot lose their salvation. In *Romans 6:1-14*, specifically verse 4, we see what being born again will do for a believer. It will cause that believer to walk in the newness of life because he is a new man that has been created by the Holy Ghost as a new creature in God. It is that new man that has had his old man crucified by God the Holy Ghost. If the opposites of the admonishments given to the believer in Romans chapter 6 are applied to what appears to be unbelieving professors, it could enlighten and expose them to their lost condition. If your want and habit is not to walk in the newness of life, then you are probably lost. If sin in general continues to reign in your mortal body

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and you cannot forsake it, then you are probably lost. If sin in general has dominion over you and you cannot forsake it, then you need to seriously examine yourself as to whether you are in the faith. *2 Corinthians 13:5* says this:

⁵ Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates? *2 Corinthians 13:5*

Have you examined yourself? Does the salvation you claim to have line up with what the Bible teaches about salvation? Are you and the Holy Ghost in agreement about your salvation? Is there a witness of the Spirit? If you are saved, there will be a witness between you and God the Holy Ghost that you are indeed a child of God. The scriptural proof of that is in *Romans 8:16*. You will know that you are saved [These things have I written unto you....that ye may know that ye have eternal life]. A word of warning is in order here. **If you are not walking in the newness of life and have not had that old man crucified then you do not have Eternal Security. You are yet in your sins and on your way to hell and the lake of fire.**

Returning to *Ephesians 4:17–24*, we see that it occurs at the front end of the longest passage in the New Testament dealing with personal separation and holiness. In that extended passage that goes all the way to the end of chapter 5 verse 33, are the standards of conduct that God expects the new man to live by. That new man is a manifestation of the new creature God has created in the Lord Jesus Christ. If you reject those standards, or rule them out in your life, or routinely just cannot live by them, then you are not a new creature. Therefore, you have absolutely no guarantee of Eternal Security. You are yet in your sins and will spend eternity in hell and the lake of fire if you do not put your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and repent of your sin.

One of the most troubling statements that I have heard over the years from members of Independent Baptist churches is that “*the Devil is making me doubt my salvation*”. Because of hurried up, shallow presentations of the Gospel in our apostate age, it is no surprise to me that many professing Christians in our congregations doubt their salvation. If you are of the persuasion that the Devil is making you doubt your salvation, then you have been set up by the Devil to receive one of the greatest deceptions in modern professing Christianity. Why would the Devil make you doubt your salvation?!? I submit to you that it is the Holy Ghost making you doubt your salvation because you either are lost, which is the most likely case, or you are saved and in sin and the Holy Ghost is attempting to restore you to full fellowship with God by motivating you to forsake your sin. **If you are having recurring doubts about your salvation, listen very carefully to this. That means that the Spirit of God is not witnessing to you that you are a child of God!** Why is that? There are several clues given in *Romans 8:8-16*:

⁸ So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹ But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. ¹⁰ And if Christ *be* in you, the body *is* dead because of sin; but the Spirit *is* life because of righteousness. ¹¹ But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead

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shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.¹² Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh.¹³ For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.¹⁴ For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.¹⁵ For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.¹⁶ The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: *Romans 8:8-16*

Ask yourself these questions from that passage. Is the Spirit of God dwelling in me so that he can witness to me that I am a child of God? Am I saved? Am I living after the flesh? Have I mortified the deeds of the body? Am I led by the Spirit of God? Am I still under the control of the spirit of bondage? So, for the believer, what is the assurance of their salvation? The assurance of the believer's salvation is God the Holy Ghost that permanently indwells all believers. It is unconfessed and unforsaken sin that grieves the Holy Ghost who is our assurance of salvation. It is the sin of the believer that weakens and masks that witness of the Spirit of the Holy Ghost that dwells in the believer. Are you doubting your salvation? Have you dealt with your sin? Let us get back to *Colossians 3:5-14*.

Colossians 3:5-14 is much more specific than *Romans 6:1-14* and *Ephesians 4:17-24* in identifying the sins that the new man is to put off. It is a sordid list. *Colossians 3:12-14* identifies the character of the new man. He is to be identified with bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering, forbearance of others, forgiveness of others, and charity. The things in *Colossians 3* verses 5-8 are the things that the new man must put off. They are the character of the old, unsaved man. Those sins of the old man include fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, covetousness, idolatry, anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, and filthy communication. Do you continually identify with those sins? Are you still the old man? **If you find that you cannot put off those sins or do not want to put off those things, then you are in serious trouble. Again, if you reject those standards, or rule them out in your life, or routinely just cannot live by them, then you are not a new creature. Therefore, you have absolutely no guarantee of Eternal Security. You are yet in your sins and will spend eternity in hell and the lake of fire if you do not put your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and repent of your sin.** That is the oft repeated refrain of this study. Continuing on, turn in your Bible to *Romans 7:4-6* where we read:

⁴ Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, *even* to him who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God.⁵ For when we were in the flesh, the motions of sins, which were by the law, did work in our members to bring forth fruit unto death.⁶ But now we are delivered from the law, that being dead wherein we were held; that we should serve in **newness of spirit**, and not *in* the oldness of the letter. *Romans 7:4-6*

If an individual gets saved, there will be a newness of spirit that will manifests itself in the

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countenance of the saved individual. One of the saddest things I see when I am in public places is the tombstones in the eyes of the unsaved. I contrast that with the light of the glorious gospel that I see radiating from the eyes of the wondrously saved and sanctified child of God. Hallelujah! It has been said that the eyes mirror the soul and that has for the most part been my experience. That is probably why I feel compelled to look into the eyes of everyone I meet for the first time. The newness of spirit we are talking about here is not about outward conformity and outward works though it will produce both of those. That newness of spirit is about a total change in attitude toward sin and towards God. It is joy unspeakable and full of glory! Our every desire should be to please the Lord, but without faith it is impossible to please the Lord. Faith is the victory folks. Do you have faith? Do you have that newness of spirit that is a hallmark of the believer in the Lord Jesus Christ? Do you have that newness of spirit or are you walking around with a fallen countenance with tombstones in your eyes? Are you joyless because that oldness of spirit that is in you is constantly at war with your emotions and your conscience. **If you do not have that newness of spirit in you, then you do not have Eternal Security. You are yet in your sins and on your way to hell and the lake of fire.** Do you have peace with God? Does it bother your spirit when someone praises the Lord Jesus Christ? If the Holy Ghost is in you, he will bubble forth with joy at the mention of that name that is above every name and that name is the Lord Jesus Christ. If the Holy Ghost is in you, he will manifest his presence and his ministry by an expression of joy. *John 16:13-14* states that the Holy Ghost will speak of and glorify the Lord Jesus Christ and not glorify himself. If you are a new creature in Christ, all things will become new for you. *Galatians 6:15* and *2 Corinthians 5:17* declare:

¹⁵ For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, **but a new creature.** *Galatians 6:15*

¹⁷ Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. *2 Corinthians 5:17*

I strongly suspect that the churches in Galatia halfway had somewhat the opposite problem from the church at Corinth. The churches in Galatia were probably morally and ceremonially squeaky clean on the outside to the point of being legalists and Pharisees, but they were dirty in their hearts on the inside. I have to be very careful here when I use the words “*legalist*” and “*Pharisees*”. The words “*legalist*” and “*Pharisees*” have become Christian curse words that are used by unsaved and unholy professing “Christians?!?” to condemn and demean Christians who advocate for holy living that is characterized by separation and consecration. That is not what I am talking about here. The church at Corinth was unholy, unseparated, and unconsecrated. The church at Corinth was morally and ceremonially dirty on the outside and dirty in their hearts on the inside. The common problem of both churches was being dirty in the heart. Both churches were not putting the proper Biblical emphasis on the necessity of being a new creature before joining the church. **The Biblical requirement for being a member of a New Testament church is to be a born again, baptized believer.** Today’s apostate and heretical churches have overwhelmingly rejected that Bible believing

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doctrine. We even have so called fundamentalists advocating for the heresy that says that unbelievers do not have to be born again in this dispensation. The apostle Peter would call that a damnable heresy. He said this in *2 Peter 2:1*:

¹ But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. *2 Peter 2:1*

The fact that most professing Christians today have never been born again is why most churches today are synagogues of Satan and whited sepulchres. An unregenerate membership quickly destroys a church. The New Testament doctrines of faith, repentance, and regeneration are not dispensational. When the Lord Jesus Christ said “ye must be born again”, he meant exactly what he said. It was for all ages. If you are hearing that today, or any day in the future, it is for you. Ye must be born again. Traditions has it that George Whitefield was once asked why he preached so much on “ye must be born again”. Whitefield’s answer was, “because ye must be born again”.

Back in August of 1992 when I first got saved, and for several years afterward, I heard a lot of preaching from *2 Corinthians 5:17* in Independent Baptist churches. *2 Corinthians 5:17* says: “Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new”. A lot of that preaching on *2 Corinthians 5:17* was motivated by an attempt to scrub up lost sinners who had been put on church rolls even though they showed no evidence of repentance. They had been led in faithless, unrepentant “sinner’s prayers and then told that they were saved. Attempts to scrub up those lost church members on the outside who had been manipulated into praying faithless “sinner’s prayers” produced hell bound rebels that were nothing more than whited sepulchres that were full of dead men’s bones. Those folks were made twofold more children of hell by false religion. The Holy Ghost does not work from the outside inward to a lost man or woman’s heart. The Holy Ghost works from the inside of the heart to the outside of a man or woman. False religions and apostate and heretical churches want to see something on the outside that they can glory in. The Holy Ghost said in *2 Corinthians 5:12*:

¹² For we commend not ourselves again unto you, but give you occasion to glory on our behalf, that ye may have somewhat to *answer* them which glory in appearance, and not in heart. *2 Corinthians 5:12*

Most churches today and their deceived soul winners look upon the outward appearance while the Holy Ghost looks upon the heart. Our churches have been taken over by unsaved evil men and seducers who are waxing worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived. Most churches today are guilty of trying to clean the fish before the Holy Ghost catches them. Those fish are swimming in a sea of sin. A lost sinner will not be converted absent the work of the Holy Ghost. The presentation of the Gospel is not a sales pitch or marketing technique designed to manipulate a lost person into praying a “sinner’s prayer” when it is obvious that the Holy Ghost is not in it. Most of the so-called “*soul winning*” that is done today is done in man’s wisdom and in man’s power. In other words, it relies on the arm of the flesh. The one, two, three repeat after me prayers are the enticing words of

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men's corrupt minds that are destitute of the truth. If we would yield to the Holy Ghost, repentance would be evidenced in our lives and the Holy Ghost would bring others to Christ through us without us trying to sell the gospel. The Gospel is the power of the Holy Ghost unto salvation. That is why we cannot lead anyone to the Lord Jesus Christ unless the Holy Ghost is in it. The Holy Ghost draws lost sinners. The Holy Ghost convicts lost sinners. The Holy Ghost converts lost sinners. The Holy Ghost regenerates lost sinners. It is all of God. We as witnesses are but tools in the hands of God the Holy Ghost. When you manipulate a person into praying a "sinner's prayer" when they obviously are not under conviction, you are usurping the ministry and authority of the Holy Ghost. Present them with the Gospel and let the Holy Ghost do the work and he will make them a new creature when he knows the time is right. For the born again Christian, the Holy Ghost promises in *2 Corinthians 5:17* an inward cleaning that will manifest itself on the outside. That outside manifestation will not be the work of the born again Christian but will instead be the work of the indwelling Holy Ghost in working repentance in and through their hearts. It is the result of the Holy Ghost motivating them to work out their own salvation. **Eternal Security is not the possession of those who have merely cleaned themselves up on the outside. Eternal Security is for new creatures in Christ. If you are not a new creature, then you do not have Eternal Security. You are yet in your sin and will crash and burn in hell and the lake of fire and be there for ever and ever.**

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WHAT ROLE DOES REPENTANCE TAKE IN ETERNAL SECURITY?

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Does the theological doctrine of eternal security mean anyone who claims to be saved is saved, regardless of whether they show any evidence of a changed life?” The short answer to that question is NO, because salvation requires a changed attitude toward sin and towards God. The Bible calls that changed attitude repentance. **SAVING REPENTANCE IS A HOLY GHOST WROUGHT PERMANENT CHANGE OF HEART THAT RESULTS IN PERMANENT CHANGE OF ATTITUDE AND ACTIONS TOWARD SIN AND TOWARD GOD.** That does not mean that we cannot or will not sin. It means that our whole attitude and “want to” has changed toward sin and toward God. Some like to call that change of heart a change of mind. I would remind you that saving repentance is both a work and a gift of the Holy Ghost. Repentance is one of the most despised doctrines in apostate American Christianity and even among many so called fundamental Independent Baptists. Satan hates the doctrine of repentance because it exposes the utter folly and the utter futility of the false religion of those who claim to be saved and continue to live in their sin all the while corrupting the doctrine of Eternal Security to justify their wickedness. No friend, if you have not repented of your sin, you will die in your sin and go to hell. I have written an extended article on the doctrine of repentance that covers 35 typewritten pages. It has a 15 typewritten pages at the end of it that answers the question “Is Saving Faith A Gift Of God”. That document on Repentance was written in response to a group of Steven Anderson followers who publicly challenged me on the doctrine of repentance when I was teaching a series on Salvation and Soul Winning at Camden Baptist Church in Saint Mary’s, Georgia. The complete document is located [HERE](#). Steven Anderson is that Independent Baptist heretic that despises repentance and hates and detests Israel and the Jew. Mark him and his followers and avoid them.

The words repent and its cognates occur 106 times in 100 verses in our King James Bibles. When I use the word cognates, I mean words like repent, repents, repented, repenting, and repentance. I have studied in depth all 106 occurrences in context. The word repent and its cognates occur 64 times in 59 verses in the New Testament. That is over 60% of the occurrences. So, repentance is a New Testament doctrine whose New Testament frequency exceeds that of the Old Testament. If you want a complete study of the topic, please refer to the document that I just mentioned.

There is a loud and proud arrogance associated with the worldly repentance of unsaved false professors that manifests itself in legalism and pharisaical attitudes. There is a meek and humble Godly Spirit (spirit) associated with the repentance of a born again Christian. That Spirit (spirit) is described in *2 Corinthians 7:9-10* and *1 Peter 3:4*:

⁹ Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but that ye sorrowed to repentance: for ye were made sorry after a godly manner, that ye might receive damage by us in nothing. ¹⁰ For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death. *2 Corinthians 7:9–10*

⁴ But *let it be* the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, *even the ornament* of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. *1*

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Peter 3:4

The poisonous fruit of not preaching repentance and not requiring repentance for church membership is the abomination of false professions that have become a plague in our churches. False professions have leavened our churches with the leaven of sin, the leaven of apostasy, and the leaven of heresy. Our churches are mostly powerless because of it. What immediately follows is a partial list of the religious acts that false professors can do and still be lost and still be going to hell:

A false professor can believe in God and still be going to hell (*James 2:19*).

A false professor can pray to Jesus and still be going to hell (*Matthew 7:22-23*).

A false professor can prophesy in Jesus' name and still be going to hell (*Matthew 7:22-23*).

A false professor can cast out devils in Jesus name and still be going to hell (*Matthew 7:22*)

A false professor can do wonderful works in Jesus' name and still be going to hell (*Matthew 7:22-23*).

A false professor can have a zeal for God and still be going to hell (*Romans 10:2-3*).

A false professor can have a zeal to make proselytes for God and still be going to hell (*Matthew 23:15*).

A false professor can be very interested in Jesus Christ and still be going to hell (*Matthew 19:16-22*).

A false professor can profess to know God and still be going to hell (*Titus 1:16*).

A false professor can follow Jesus for a while and still be going to hell (*John 6:66*).

A false professor can serve Christ as an apostle and still be going to hell (*John 6:70*).

A false professor can even believe on Jesus' name and still be going to hell (*John 2:23-24*).

False professors put themselves in great peril by playing games with God. You can fool man, but you will never be able to deceive God. **Fake or feigned faith without repentance will put you in hell. Faith is the blossom of salvation that is pollinated by the Holy Ghost so that it can produce the fruits of repentance.** Without faith it is impossible to please God. If you are lost and you continue to reject the conviction of the Holy Ghost, there will come a time when God will quit dealing with you. Holy Ghost conviction is God's call to you to put your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. If you continue to reject that call, *Romans 1:28* speaks of a time when God turns individuals over to a reprobate mind. Those with a reprobate mind have never repented. Those with a reprobate mind have been rejected by God and can never repent. They are going to hell.

The doctrine of repentance identifies false professors and is used by the Holy Ghost as a tool to point us to those who have made false professions. Repentance is the salt that limits the leaven of sin and false professions. Because most churches refuse to preach repentance, **false professions have become the leprosy of apostate churches and deceived Bible believing churches in America.** This discussion about false professions only covers about three-quarters of a page here. In our document on repentance, it covers 8 pages. We will now say a little bit more about the jots and tittles

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of repentance. Let's read all of the following passages:

³ **I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.** ⁴ Or those eighteen, upon whom the tower in Siloam fell, and slew them, think ye that they were sinners above all men that dwelt in Jerusalem? ⁵ **I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.** *Luke 13:3–5*

³⁰ And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where **to repent:** ³¹ Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by *that* man whom he hath ordained; *whereof* he hath given assurance unto all *men*, in that he hath raised him from the dead. *Acts 17:30–31*

²¹ Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, **repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.** *Acts 20:21*

⁸ For though I made you sorry with a letter, **I do not repent, though I did repent:** for I perceive that the same epistle hath made you sorry, though *it were* but for a season. ⁹ Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, **but that ye sorrowed to repentance:** for ye were made sorry after a godly manner, that ye might receive damage by us in nothing. ¹⁰ **For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of:** but the sorrow of the world worketh death. ¹¹ For behold this selfsame thing, that ye sorrowed after a godly sort, what carefulness it wrought in you, yea, *what* clearing of yourselves, yea, *what* indignation, yea, *what* fear, yea, *what* vehement desire, yea, *what* zeal, yea, *what* revenge! In all *things* ye have approved yourselves to be clear in this matter. *2 Corinthians 7:8–11*

⁹ For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and **how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God;** ¹⁰ And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, *even* Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come. *1 Thessalonians 1:9–10*

¹¹ Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked **turn from** his way and live: **turn ye, turn ye** from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel? *Ezekiel 33:11*

Many times Biblical repentance is described by the terms “*turn*” and “*return*” as we have just seen in *1 Thessalonians 1:9–10* and *Ezekiel 33:11*. Hence the dictionary definitions of repentance use the phrase “*change of mind*” because the terms “*turn*” and “*return*” indicate a change of direction. There are a number of Bible passages that use the words “*repent*” and “*turn*” in the immediate context of the passages. The best way to get a Biblical definition of the word repent and its cognates is to read

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and study the word in every context where it occurs.

Saving Biblical repentance is the work of the Holy Ghost in the unbeliever that brings about an everlasting change of mind toward sin and toward God. It comes in response to the convicting work of the Holy Ghost. It delivers you from the habit of sin, or, if you will, habitual sin. It changes your “*want to*” and gives you the power through the Holy Ghost to forsake your sin. Many times attempts at repentance in the unbeliever come in response to conviction from the Holy Ghost. Many years ago, I told Brother Sammy Allen of my attempts to turn over a new leaf before I got saved. His response was that I was already repenting **before** I got saved. While I agree with Brother Sammy, I also believe that my repentings were my unbelieving responses to Holy Ghost conviction. Repentance is not in any way based upon human works. Repentance is not a work of the human will. Repentance is the work of the indwelling Holy Ghost. After a person puts their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, God grants repentance to the believer through the Holy Ghost. The Holy Ghost will manifest himself through the works of repentance that are wrought in and through the believer. In a sense, repentance is a fruit of the indwelling Holy Ghost. As Brother Sammy Allen said over and over; no fruit no root. If there is no fruit meet for repentance, there is no root in the tree of life. If the salvation you claim to have does not change your attitude and your actions toward God and toward people, then you have not repented. Repentance is also an evidence of saving faith. Pastor Charles Lawson of Temple Baptist Church in Knoxville, Tennessee had this to say about repentance:

Repentance is an evident sign of Bible believing faith. If you don't have repentance, you don't have Bible believing faith. Repentance does not precede faith. Repentance is a product of true faith. If the faith that you say you have in the Lord Jesus Christ does not produce repentance you have got intellectual assent to a bunch of facts, but you don't have saving faith. END QUOTE

If you have not repented, that is proof that the Holy Ghost is not working in you. If you have not repented, that is proof to you and those about you that you do not have saving faith. Porter Barrington, author of the “Christian Life Study Outlines”, had this to say about repentance:

True repentance is always coupled with faith. It is impossible to have saving faith and not repent.

Amen! Repentance is the life blood of both salvation and sanctification for the Christian. Repentance is pumped through the heart of faith in the individual who has been regenerated by the Holy Ghost. The Holy Ghost must be present so that he can form God's work of salvation in you. It is the indwelling Holy Ghost that works repentance in you. God's work of salvation in you changes your outward conduct. Some of the fruits of the Spirit from repentance are love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance.

For decades now, I have written, preached, and taught in much depth on the absolute necessity of repentance in salvation. Many fundamentalist preachers and teachers rightly expound and pound on the absolute necessity of repentance as an element of biblical salvation, but they teach and preach the required repentance in an unscriptural manner. In doing so, many, if not most, Independent

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Baptist preachers make repentance a work of the flesh, or of the will of man (*John 1:13*). Because of that error, many Independent Baptist preachers are rightly accused of advocating a works based salvation, or the Calvinistic doctrine of “*Lordship Salvation*”. They are right on the necessity of repentance in salvation, but they use theological error to advocate for a doctrine that is plainly taught in the King James Bible.

Have you repented? Except ye repent ye shall all likewise perish in eternal death in the lake of fire. That leads to the question of what eternal death is?

Many unsaved folks and heretical “Christian” cults look upon death as being a total lack of existence and consciousness or they advocate for the heresy of total annihilation. That is the wishful thinking of a lost man. Death is nothing more than a change of location and a change of state. Death is separation. When you die, you move from a temporal earthly existence to an eternal existence where you will either exist in eternal death in hell and then the lake of fire or you will exist in eternal life in heaven. If you die lost, you will exist in conscious, eternal separation from God in the torments of the lake of fire. How is it that the dead can stand before God in *Revelation 20*? Answer, it is because they are dead in their trespasses and sins. In *Revelation 20:11-15*, it is written:

¹¹ And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. ¹² And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is *the book of life*: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. ¹³ And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. ¹⁴ And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. ¹⁵ And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire. *Revelation 20:11–15*

Hell is an eternal reality that is called to remembrance 54 times in the King James Bible. Many heretics and Bible perversions try to lessen the severity and impact of hell by calling it hades or sheole. Most English speaking peoples do not have a clue what hades and sheole are, but they have a vivid understanding of what hell is. Hell is an eternally burning place from which there is no escape (*Luke 16:26*).

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WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT THOSE THAT FALL AWAY?

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Does the theological doctrine of eternal security mean anyone who claims to be saved is saved, regardless of whether they continue in the faith? Put another way, if a person claims to be saved and then does not continue in the faith are they eternally secure? Many preachers and Bible teachers mistakenly call Eternal Security “*Perseverance of the Saints*”. “*Perseverance of the Saints*” is the fifth point of the Satanic Pentagram of five point TULIP Calvinism. You should know that none of the five points of Calvinism are scriptural as taught by the Calvinists themselves. Perseverance implies a necessity for faithfulness on the part of the saved person. The Calvinistic doctrine of “*Perseverance of the Saints*” is another philosophical twist on the ages old doctrine that states that men and women must work for their salvation. If a person is scripturally saved, they will continue in the faith. *John 10:27-29, John 17:12, Ephesians 1:12-14, Ephesians 4:30, 1 Peter 1:3-5, Hebrews 10:38-39, and 1 John 2:19* are all guarantees that born again believers will continue in the faith until they die or the rapture takes place. Let’s read all of those:

²⁷ My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: ²⁸ And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any *man* pluck them out of my hand. ²⁹ 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*

¹² While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled. *John 17:12*

¹² That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ. ¹³ In whom ye also *trusted*, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, ¹⁴ Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory. *Ephesians 1:12–14*

³⁰ And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. *Ephesians 4:30*

³ Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, ⁵ Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. *1 Peter 1:3–5*

³⁸ Now the just shall live by faith: but if *any man* draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him. ³⁹ But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them

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that believe to the saving of the soul. *Hebrews 10:38–39*

¹⁹ They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would *no doubt* have continued with us: but *they went out*, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us. *1 John 2:19*

Every one of these passages of Scripture are proof that any individual who is a believer will continue in the faith until the end. Listen to this very carefully. **Those who do not continue in the faith were NEVER, EVER saved to start with. Those who were NEVER, EVER saved have no claim to Eternal Security. They will be cast into the lake of fire at the Great White Throne Judgment.**

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WHAT ROLE, IF ANY, DOES WORKS PLAY IN SALVATION?

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Salvation is not of works. Period. Works do not produce or maintain salvation. Any good works you do for “*salvation*” BEFORE you put your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ are more futile than trying to pour a 50 pound bag of mustard seed into a container during hurricane force winds without losing a single seed. The strongest condemnation of works based religion was put forth by the Lord Jesus Christ in *Matthew 7:15-23* where he said this:

¹⁵ Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. ¹⁶ Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? ¹⁷ Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. ¹⁸ A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither *can* a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. ¹⁹ Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. ²⁰ Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them. ²¹ 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. ²² Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? ²³ And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity. *Matthew 7:15–23*

Folks, false prophets, false teachers, and deceived disciples gather in ungodly religious groups deceiving and being deceived in buildings that they call Christian churches pushing good works as a means to salvation while promoting every form of the vilest, abominable, damnable heresies known to man. Their doctrine that glories in the self-serving, filthy works of men is a stench in the nostrils of God. We have reached a point in America where the wickedness of most Americans is great in the earth and every imagination of the thoughts of their hearts is only evil continually. America is ripe for judgment and much of the blame for it rests in the men behind our pulpits and lecterns in our apostate and unbelieving American churches. Most of the members in these whited sepulchres and synagogues of Satan will be told by the Lord Jesus Christ: “I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity”. The message is do not depend upon your religious works for salvation.

The Holy Ghost also forcefully condemned works based salvation in many of the Scriptures given to the Apostle Paul. We will now read *Romans 3:26-28*, *Romans 4:1-7*, *Romans 9:30-32*, *Galatians 2:16-17*, *Galatians 3:2-6*, *Ephesians 2:8-10*, and *Titus 3:5*:

²⁶ To declare, *I say*, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus. ²⁷ Where *is* boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? of works? Nay: but by the law of faith. ²⁸ Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law. *Romans 3:26–28*

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What shall we say then that Abraham our father, as pertaining to the flesh, hath found? ² For if Abraham were justified by works, he hath *whereof* to glory; but not before God. ³ For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness. ⁴ Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt. ⁵ But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness. ⁶ Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man, unto whom God imputeth righteousness without works, ⁷ *Saying*, Blessed *are* they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. *Romans 4:1–7*

³⁰ What shall we say then? That the Gentiles, which followed not after righteousness, have attained to righteousness, even the righteousness which is of faith. ³¹ But Israel, which followed after the law of righteousness, hath not attained to the law of righteousness. ³² Wherefore? Because *they sought it* not by faith, but as it were by the works of the law. For they stumbled at that stumblingstone; *Romans 9:30–32*

¹⁶ Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified. ¹⁷ But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, *is* therefore Christ the minister of sin? God forbid. *Galatians 2:16–17*

² This only would I learn of you, Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? ³ Are ye so foolish? having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh? ⁴ Have ye suffered so many things in vain? *if it be* yet in vain. ⁵ He therefore that ministereth to you the Spirit, and worketh miracles among you, *doeth he it* by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? ⁶ Even as Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness. *Galatians 3:2–6*

⁸ For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God: ⁹ Not of works, lest any man should boast. ¹⁰ For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them. *Ephesians 2:8–10*

⁵ Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; *Titus 3:5*

That is 24 verses in 7 passages of Scripture. That should settle the issue. God will not accept anyone's works for salvation regardless of what their preacher, teacher, or church says. While it is impossible for works to save anyone, salvation will produce works and fruit that will redound unto

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the glory of God. Godly works are an outward manifestation of an inward saving faith. Works based salvation manifests itself in many ways. What follows is but six (6) of the many works based heresies concerning salvation:

(1) We must work to earn salvation. (2) We must work to keep salvation. (3) We must have faith plus works to earn salvation. (4) We can give salvation back. (5) Since we can never be sure of our salvation, we have to keep working for it until the day we die. (6) If we sin, you lose our salvation.

If you look at all six of these, each one of them is some regurgitation of requiring works for salvation. If we have to do something to earn salvation, that is a works based salvation. If we have to do something to keep salvation, that is a works based salvation. It is a cinch that if God will not allow us to do works to earn our salvation, he is not going to allow us to do works to keep our salvation.

Advocating for faith plus works as the means to salvation is a rejection of the work of the Lord Jesus Christ on the cross. Put another way, when you advocate for faith plus works for salvation, you are stating that the work of the Lord Jesus Christ on the cross was not sufficient. That is blasphemy. Then we have those that believe you can give your salvation back. This belief may be the most arrogant of all. That means that you believe you can pluck yourself out of the hand of the Lord Jesus Christ. That is not going to happen (*John 10:29*). Furthermore, can you imagine the utter conceit of trying to evict the Holy Ghost from a tabernacle he occupies? If you believe you can give it back, that means you probably never possessed salvation to start with.

Someone telling you that you can never have assurance of salvation is religious slavery. It is a damnable heresy that puts you back into the bondage of the law. It is a false doctrine that is an outright rejection and repudiation of *1 John 5:13* where it is stated:

¹³ These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; **that ye may know that ye have eternal life**, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God. *1 John 5:13*

Then we have those who argue that we can lose our salvation if we sin. In its many forms, that is really the doctrine held to by most of professing Christianity today. Many refer to it as Arminianism. It is a denial of every eternal and everlasting that is applied to the life that faith in the Lord Jesus Christ brings to every believer. Conditional eternal life or conditional everlasting life makes salvation based upon something you do or do not do. Life that can be taken back or given back is not everlasting or eternal. Conditional eternal life and conditional everlasting life are contradictions in terms and logic. *1 John* deals with sin in a manner that no other book in the Bible does. There are some things in it that are hard to be understood and hard to be received. For those who believe that anyone can lose their salvation because of sin, I would like to ask them how they apply *1 John 3:9* to that doctrine. We quote *1 John 1:8–10* and *1 John 3:9*:

⁸ If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we

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confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.¹⁰ If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. *1 John 1:8–10*

⁹Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God. *1 John 3:9*

There is a group among the Methodists called Wesleyans that teach the false doctrine of “entire sanctification” and one of their proof texts for it is *1 John 3:9*. That doctrine is also referred to as “sinless perfection”. The doctrine says, “*I have not sinned today and will not sin tomorrow. I cannot sin*”. How does that line up with *1 John 1:8–10*?

The Apostle John said that if we say we have no sin, then we are liars and the truth is not in us. That means that John had sin. Does that mean that John lost his salvation? If so, how many times did John lose his salvation. That raises another question: how many times did the Apostle John have to get re-baptized after getting re-saved? We know that the Apostle Paul had a serious battle with sin from *Romans 7:4-25*. Does that mean that Paul lost his salvation each time he sinned? If so, how many times did Paul lose his salvation. Did Paul get re-baptized every time he was re-saved? What a impossible scenario! That is where false prophets and false doctrine take you and leave you: in a ball of confusion.

So, pray tell, what exactly does *1 John 3:9* mean?!? Admittedly, it is a difficult passage. If we take it quite literally, in its immediate context, then no one has ever been, or ever will be, born of God because all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God. That cannot be. Furthermore, as John has said, if we say we have no sin then we are liars. I do not normally use commentaries because most of them are corrupt. In this case, I ran *1 John 3:9* through many of them. Without exception all of them wanted to add the word “HABITUAL” in front of sin to make it read “Whosoever is born of God doth not commit HABITUAL sin”. I reject that because it adds to the word of God. Here is what I believe about that passage. If you resort to nothing but a cursory reading of the passage, you will get an ulcer from the frustration caused by your continued lack of understanding. I did for a long time. It is imperative that we understand what the new birth does for a born again believer. When anyone is born again, they receive a new nature. If you are born again, that new nature is the “Spirit” of the Holy Ghost that forever dwells in you. That “Spirit” of the Holy Ghost is **“his seed that remaineth in”** you. Let us add a little more detail. In *1 John 3:9*, the words “*Whosoever*”, the word “*him*”, and the two words “*he*” are applied to the born again believer. The word “*his*” in the phrase **“his seed remaineth in”** is applied to the Spirit of God [the Holy Ghost]. If you are looking for the ultimate in assurance of salvation, there it is! Hallelujah! I believe *1 John 3:9* is the strongest verse in the New Testament that refutes any doctrine that says you can lose your salvation. To give you a little more insight on *1 John 3:9*, I offer an extended quote from Pastor Robert Sargent:

As with most erroneous doctrines, there is an element of truth to Christian Perfectionism. After all, the scriptures are appealed to (at least in part). But, that's the problem - only some of the scriptures pertinent to the Christian life are taken into account. There is a whole body of teaching dealing with the two natures of the child

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of God, and the ongoing conflict between those natures.

When a person is born again by the Spirit of God, he does not lose his old, Adamic, sin nature. However, he is made partaker of the divine nature (2 Peter 1:4). Therefore, the believer has two natures - the fleshly and the spiritual.

There is nothing holy or good about the flesh. It is carnal, self-seeking, and sinful. It has no redeeming value. On the other hand, there is nothing unholy or deficient about the new nature. It is God's nature, and can only be holy. "That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit" (John 3:6).

Every Christian will experience a conflict between the flesh and the Spirit (Galatians 5:17; James 4:5). This is a "battle royal" raging for control of the believer's life, and the battle ground is the mind (Romans 7:23) for "as he thinketh in his heart, so is he" (Proverbs 23:7). The great apostle Paul, who was perfect (Philippians 3:15) and yet still striving for perfection (Philippians 3:12), knew this struggle intimately. He described it in detail in Romans 7:15-25. Notice his cry of despair- "O wretched man that I am! Who shall deliver me from the body of this death?" (verse 24). The next verse answered that question. There is victory!

When the Bible makes the statement. "Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God" (1 John 3:9), it is referring to the new nature. This divine nature is God's nature - therefore, it cannot sin. This verse must not be interpreted privately (i.e., by itself, separate from other scriptures). 1 John 1:6-10 presupposes a Christian can and does sin, and gives the remedy when we do. Perhaps 1 John 2:1 best sums up the matter: "My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye SIN NOT And IF ANY MAN SIN, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous." Indeed, a great deal of instruction in the New Testament epistles exhorts believers to sin not, but to live holy, separated, pure lives before God and men.

The other side of the coin with this doctrine of entire sanctification is the teaching of "falling from grace" - the possibility of losing one's salvation. After all, what happens when someone who is sanctified, sinless, and perfect falls into sin? The logic of Wesleyan reasoning must answer that either he was not saved in the first place, or he has fallen out of salvation. The doctrine of "eternal security" will be covered in the next lecture. Suffice to say that the scripture teaches the eternal security of the believer (e.g. John 10:28-29 ; Romans 8:35-39 ; Ephesians 1:13-14; 4:30; Philippians 1:6; 1 Peter 1:5; Jude 24; etc.), and that IF one could lose his

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salvation he could never be re-saved (Hebrews 6:6; 10:26-27).²

In closing out this section, let me give some examples of how the largest “Christian” cult in the world perverts the gospel. I quote from the pamphlet “Pillar Of Fire, Pillar Of Truth”:

Jesus said it is not enough to have faith in him; we also must obey his commandments.

Since no gift can be forced on the recipient—gifts always can be rejected—even after we become justified, we can throw away the gift of salvation.

Some people promote an especially attractive idea: All true Christians, regardless of how they live, have an absolute assurance of salvation, once they accept Jesus into their hearts as "their personal Lord and Savior." The problem is that this belief is contrary to the Bible and constant Christian teaching.

The Bible makes it clear that Christians have a moral assurance of salvation (God will be true to his word and will grant salvation to those who have faith in Christ and are obedient to him [1 John 4:19-24]), but the Bible does not teach that Christians have a guarantee of heaven. There can be no absolute assurance of salvation.

All six of the heresies I identified previously make salvation a human performance based doctrine. Once again, all of this is based on the idea that men and women must work for their salvation. We know that God rejects works for salvation.

²Landmarks of Baptist Doctrine, Book III; page 512; Pastor Robert Sargent; Bible Baptist Church Publications, Oak Harbor, Washington.

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DOES SALVATION PRODUCE WORKS MEET FOR REPENTANCE?

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Does the theological doctrine of eternal security mean anyone who claims to be saved is saved, regardless of whether they produce “works meet for repentance”? No, saving faith always produces works. To prove that statement, let us read *Matthew 3:9, Acts 26:20, Ephesians 2:8-10, 1 Timothy 2:9-10, 2 Timothy 3:14-17, Titus 1:15-16, Titus 2:6-7, Titus 3:8, Titus 3:14, Hebrews 10:23-24, Hebrews 11, and James 2:14-26* quoted below:

⁸ Bring forth therefore **fruits meet for repentance**: *Matthew 3:8*

²⁰ But shewed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judaea, and *then* to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, and do **works meet for repentance**. *Acts 26:20*

⁸ For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God: ⁹ Not of works, lest any man should boast. ¹⁰ For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus **unto good works**, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them. *Ephesians 2:8-10*

⁹ In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; ¹⁰ But (which becometh women professing godliness) **with good works**. *1 Timothy 2:9-10*

¹⁴ But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned *them*; ¹⁵ And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: ¹⁷ That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished **unto all good works**. *2 Timothy 3:14-17*

¹⁵ Unto the pure all things *are* pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving *is* nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled. ¹⁶ They profess that they know God; **but in works they deny him**, being abominable, and disobedient, and **unto every good work reprobate**. *Titus 1:15-16*

⁶ Young men likewise exhort to be sober minded. ⁷ In all things shewing thyself a pattern **of good works**: in doctrine *shewing* uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity, *Titus 2:6-7*

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⁸ *This is* a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou affirm constantly, that they which have believed in God might be careful **to maintain good works**. These things are good and profitable unto men. *Titus 3:8*

¹⁴ And let ours also learn **to maintain good works** for necessary uses, that they be not unfruitful. *Titus 3:14*

²³ Let us hold fast the profession of *our* faith without wavering; (for he *is* faithful that promised;) ²⁴ And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and **to good works**: *Hebrews 10:23–24*

¹⁴ What *doth it* profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not **works**? can faith save him? ¹⁵ If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, ¹⁶ And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be *ye* warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what *doth it* profit? ¹⁷ **Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.** ¹⁸ Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have **works**: shew me thy faith without thy **works**, and I will shew thee my faith by my works. ¹⁹ Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble. ²⁰ But wilt thou know, O vain man, that **faith without works is dead**? ²¹ Was not Abraham our father justified by **works**, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? ²² Seest thou how faith wrought with his **works**, and by **works** was faith made perfect? ²³ And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God. ²⁴ Ye see then how that by **works** a man is justified, and not by faith only. ²⁵ Likewise also was not Rahab the harlot justified by **works**, when she had received the messengers, and had sent *them* out another way? ²⁶ For as the body without the spirit is dead, so **faith without works is dead** also. *James 2:14–26*

If you claim to have faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, but your life does not manifest the works of the Lord Jesus Christ, then you do not have saving faith. The faith you claim to have does not line up with the Scriptures we just read. Now, I did not quote Hebrews chapter 11 because of its length, but you will notice that the phrase “by faith” is used 15 (fifteen) times in that chapter. In all fifteen instances the faith cited is seen to be producing some specific work. Each of these individuals had saving faith as proved by the works that it produced. A professed faith that does not manifest fruit and good works is a dead faith that has no claim to eternal security.

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WHO ARE THOSE WHO POSSESS ETERNAL SECURITY?

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As we have progressed through this study, we have emphasized over and over again that only those who have saving faith that is evidenced by repentance have any claim to Eternal Security. So, how can we identify those who have Eternal Security? A sampling of some of those who have possession of Eternal Security include:

(1) Those who have been born again and begotten of God the Father. These are the new men and new creatures that are the eternal possession of the Lord Jesus Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17, Galatians 6:15, Ephesians 4:24, Colossians 3:10, 1 Peter 1:3-5).

¹⁷ Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. *2 Corinthians 5:17*

¹⁵ For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature. *Galatians 6:15*

²⁴ And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness. *Ephesians 4:24*

¹⁰ And have put on the new *man*, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him: *Colossians 3:10*

³ Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, ⁵ Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. *1 Peter 1:3-5*

(2) Those who are in the hand of the Lord Jesus Christ (John 10:25-30).

²⁵ Jesus answered them, I told you, and ye believed not: the works that I do in my Father's name, they bear witness of me. ²⁶ But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you. ²⁷ My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: ²⁸ And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any *man* pluck them out of my hand. ²⁹ My Father, which gave *them* me,

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is greater than all; and no *man* is able to pluck *them* out of my Father's hand. ³⁰ I and *my* Father are one. *John 10:25–30*

(3) Those who follow Christ (*John 10:27-28*).

²⁷ My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:

²⁸ And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any *man* pluck them out of my hand. *John 10:27–28*

(4) Those who have the Spirit of God as contrasted with those who do not have the Spirit of God (*Romans 8:14-16* versus *Jude 17-21*).

¹⁴ For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. ¹⁵ For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. ¹⁶ The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: *Romans 8:14–16*

¹⁷ But, beloved, remember ye the words which were spoken before of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ; ¹⁸ how that they told you there should be mockers in the last time, who should walk after their own ungodly lusts. ¹⁹ These be they who separate themselves, sensual, having not the Spirit. ²⁰ But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, ²¹ keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. *Jude 17–21*

(5) Those that have the seal of God (*Ephesians 1:13-14*, *2 Timothy 2:19*).

¹³ In whom ye also *trusted*, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, ¹⁴ Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory. *Ephesians 1:13–14*

¹⁹ Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity. *2 Timothy 2:19*

(6) The righteous (*1 Corinthians 6:9-11*).

⁹ Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of

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God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind,¹⁰ Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.¹¹ And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God. *1 Corinthians 6:9–11*

(7) Those who continue in the word (*John 8:31-32*).

³¹Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, *then* are ye my disciples indeed; ³²And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. *John 8:31–32*

(8) The fruitful branches and trees (*John 15:2, Luke 3:9*).

²Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every *branch* that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit. *John 15:2*

⁹And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: every tree therefore which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. *Luke 3:9*

(9) Those living by faith (*Hebrews 10:37-39*).

³⁷For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry. ³⁸Now the just shall live by faith: but if *any man* draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him. ³⁹But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul. *Hebrews 10:37–39*

(10) Those who love the brethren (*1 John 3:14*).

¹⁴We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not *his* brother abideth in death. *1 John 3:14*

(11) Those who continue to abide in the truth (*1 John 2:19*).

¹⁹They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been

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of us, they would *no doubt* have continued with us: but *they went out*, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us. *1 John 2:19*

(12) Those who are purifying themselves (*1 John 3:1-3*).

Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. ²Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. ³And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure. *1 John 3:1-3*

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WHO ARE THOSE WHO DO NOT POSSESS ETERNAL SECURITY?

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There is a wide range of people who do not possess Eternal Security. The common core amongst all of them is a lack of saving faith and repentance. It is that lack of saving faith and repentance that leads to all sorts of sin, apostasy, and damnable heresies. Tragically, it all ends in the eternal lake of fire. As you read how the scriptures describe the nine groups of people below, keep this in mind: all have been exposed to the truth and have rejected it.

(1) Unbelievers (*John 3:36, Hebrews 3:10-4:11*).

³⁶ He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him. *John 3:36*

¹⁰ Wherefore I was grieved with that generation, and said, They do alway err in *their* heart; and they have not known my ways. ¹¹ So I swear in my wrath, They shall not enter into my rest.) ¹² Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God. ¹³ But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. ¹⁴ For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast unto the end; ¹⁵ While it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation. ¹⁶ For some, when they had heard, did provoke: howbeit not all that came out of Egypt by Moses. ¹⁷ But with whom was he grieved forty years? *was it* not with them that had sinned, whose carcasses fell in the wilderness? ¹⁸ And to whom swear he that they should not enter into his rest, but to them that believed not? ¹⁹ So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief.

4 Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left *us* of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it. ² For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard *it*. ³ For we which have believed do enter into rest, as he said, As I have sworn in my wrath, if they shall enter into my rest: although the works were finished from the foundation of the world. ⁴ For he spake in a certain place of the seventh *day* on this wise, And God did rest the seventh day from all his works. ⁵ And in this *place* again, If they shall enter into my rest. ⁶ Seeing therefore it remaineth that some must enter therein, and they to whom it was first preached entered not in because of unbelief: ⁷ Again, he limiteth a certain day, saying in David, To

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day, after so long a time; as it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts. ⁸ For if Jesus had given them rest, then would he not afterward have spoken of another day. ⁹ There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God. ¹⁰ For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God *did* from his. ¹¹ Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief. *Hebrews 3:10-4:11*

(2) Religious unbelievers (*Matthew 7:21-23, Matthew 23:15*).

²¹ 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. ²² Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? ²³ And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity. *Matthew 7:21-23*

¹⁵ Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye compass sea and land to make one proselyte, and when he is made, ye make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves. *Matthew 23:15*

(3) Those of corrupt minds who resist the truth (*2 Timothy 3:5-9*).

⁵ Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away. ⁶ For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts, ⁷ Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁸ Now as Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith. ⁹ But they shall proceed no further: for their folly shall be manifest unto all *men*, as theirs also was. *2 Timothy 3:5-9*

(4) Those that are defiled an unbelieving (*Titus 1:15-16*).

¹⁵ Unto the pure all things *are* pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving *is* nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled. ¹⁶ They profess that they know God; but in works they deny *him*, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate. *Titus 1:15-16*

(5) False prophets and false teachers who deny the Lord (*2 Peter 2:1, Jude 4,19*).

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But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. *2 Peter 2:1*

⁴For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly *men*, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.....¹⁹ These be they who separate themselves, sensual, having not the Spirit. *Jude 4, 19*

(6) Those who knowingly and wilfully correct the word of God (*Revelation 22:18-19*).

¹⁸For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: ¹⁹And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and *from* the things which are written in this book. *Revelation 22:18-19*

(7) Those who do not overcome (*Revelation 21:7-8*).

⁷He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son. ⁸But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death. *Revelation 21:7-8*

(8) False professors and those who draw back into perdition (*John 2:23-24, John 6:64-66, John 8:30-46, Acts 8:13-23, 1 Corinthians 15:2, Hebrews 10:38-39, James 2:19, and Jude 3-19*).

²³Now when he was in Jerusalem at the passover, in the feast *day*, many believed in his name, when they saw the miracles which he did.

²⁴But Jesus did not commit himself unto them, because he knew all *men*, *John 2:23-24*

⁶⁴But there are some of you that believe not. For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were that believed not, and who should betray him. ⁶⁵And he said, Therefore said I unto you, that no man can come

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unto me, except it were given unto him of my Father. ⁶⁶ From that *time* many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him. *John 6:64–66*

³⁰ As he spake these words, many believed on him. ³¹ Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, *then* are ye my disciples indeed; ³² And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. ³³ They answered him, We be Abraham's seed, and were never in bondage to any man: how sayest thou, Ye shall be made free? ³⁴ Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin. ³⁵ And the servant abideth not in the house for ever: *but* the Son abideth ever. ³⁶ If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed. ³⁷ I know that ye are Abraham's seed; but ye seek to kill me, because my word hath no place in you. ³⁸ I speak that which I have seen with my Father: and ye do that which ye have seen with your father. ³⁹ They answered and said unto him, Abraham is our father. Jesus saith unto them, If ye were Abraham's children, ye would do the works of Abraham. ⁴⁰ But now ye seek to kill me, a man that hath told you the truth, which I have heard of God: this did not Abraham. ⁴¹ Ye do the deeds of your father. Then said they to him, We be not born of fornication; we have one Father, *even* God. ⁴² Jesus said unto them, If God were your Father, ye would love me: for I proceeded forth and came from God; neither came I of myself, but he sent me. ⁴³ Why do ye not understand my speech? *even* because ye cannot hear my word. ⁴⁴ Ye are of *your* father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it. ⁴⁵ And because I tell *you* the truth, ye believe me not. ⁴⁶ Which of you convinceth me of sin? And if I say the truth, why do ye not believe me? *John 8:30–46*

¹³ Then Simon himself believed also: and when he was baptized, he continued with Philip, and wondered, beholding the miracles and signs which were done. ¹⁴ Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John: ¹⁵ Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost: ¹⁶ (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.) ¹⁷ Then laid they *their* hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost. ¹⁸ And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them

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money, ¹⁹ Saying, Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost. ²⁰ But Peter said unto him, Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money. ²¹ Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter: for thy heart is not right in the sight of God. ²² Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee. ²³ For I perceive that thou art in the gall of bitterness, and *in* the bond of iniquity. *Acts 8:13–23*

² By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. *1 Corinthians 15:2*

³⁸ Now the just shall live by faith: but if *any man* draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him. ³⁹ But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul. *Hebrews 10:38–39*

¹⁹ Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble. *James 2:19*

³ Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort *you* that *ye* should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints. ⁴ For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly *men*, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁵ I will therefore put you in remembrance, though ye once knew this, how that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed them that believed not. ⁶ And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day. ⁷ *Even* as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them, in like manner giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire. ⁸ Likewise also these *filthy* dreamers defile the flesh, despise dominion, and speak evil of dignities. ⁹ Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against *him* a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee. ¹⁰ But these speak evil of those *things* which they know not: but what they know naturally, as brute beasts, in those *things* they corrupt themselves. ¹¹ Woe unto them! for they have gone in the

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way of Cain, and ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward, and perished in the gainsaying of Core.

¹² These are spots in your feasts of charity when they feast with *you*, feeding themselves without fear: clouds *they are* without water, carried about of winds; trees whose fruit withereth, without fruit, twice dead, plucked up by the roots; ¹³ raging waves of the sea, foaming out their own shame; wandering stars, to whom is reserved the blackness of darkness for ever. ¹⁴ And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, ¹⁵ to execute judgment upon all, and to convince all *that are* ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all *their* hard *speeches* which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.

¹⁶ These are murmurers, complainers, walking after their own lusts; and their mouth speaketh great swelling *words*, having *men's* persons in admiration because of advantage. ¹⁷ But, beloved, remember ye the words which were spoken before of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ; ¹⁸ how that they told you there should be mockers in the last time, who should walk after their own ungodly lusts. ¹⁹ These be they who separate themselves, sensual, having not the Spirit. *Jude 3–19*

(9) Those that hate their brother (1 John 3:15).

¹⁵ Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him. *1 John 3:15*

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DOES ETERNAL SECURITY CAUSE PEOPLE TO LIVE IN SIN? DOES ETERNAL SECURITY GRANT LIBERTY AND LICENSE TO SIN?

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When I say “*live in sin*”, I am not limiting that expression to those who practice so-called premarital sex outside the confines of a Biblical marriage between a biological male and a biological female. I am talking about all forms of sin that are known to man, We have liberty in the Lord Jesus Christ. That liberty lets “every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity” (2 *Timothy* 2:19). Those of us that are saved have been released from the bondage to our greatest adversary, and that is our ever warring sin nature. Because of that liberty to depart from iniquity, we do not have to sin: we choose to. Liberty is not a license to sin.

We must be very careful in how we apply the word “*liberty*” because there are some heretical, antinomian preachers and teachers that take much too much liberty (!?) with the application of the word “*liberty*” as it is used in the New Testament. Those heretics use liberty as a license to sin. Antinomianism is the heresy that states: “Since we are under grace that we are under no obligation to obey God’s moral law”. Antinomianism justifies every form of wickedness, licentiousness, wantonness, lasciviousness, and concupiscence as being okay for anyone who claims to be a “Christian” because they are no longer under the law. Antinomianism is a doctrine of devils and a damnable heresy. The “Recovering Fundamentalist” movement within some Independent Baptist churches has embraced this Satanic monster. The “Free Grace Movement” also opens the door for their followers to embrace this Satanic monster. The doctrine and logic of Calvinism also leads to antinomianism.

The word “*liberty*” occurs 18 times in 17 verses in the New Testament. Liberty is once quoted from *Isaiah 61:1* in *Luke 4:8* where it is used of the eventual spiritual liberty the Jews will have in Christ. Liberty is used three times to refer to the freedom of movement the Apostle Paul was granted when he was under arrest: *Acts 24:23*, *Acts 26:32*, and *Acts 27:3*. Liberty was used once for the freedom from the bondage of corruption in *Romans 8:21*. Liberty is used once in *1 Corinthians 7:39* where it describes the freedom that a widow has to remarry. Liberty is used twice without reference to sin to describe the freedom of whether to partake of food offered to idols: see *1 Corinthians 8:9* and *1 Corinthians 10:29*. Liberty is used once in *2 Corinthians 3:17* to describe the freedom of the Spirit of the Lord in opening the blinded eyes of the Jewish people. Liberty is used four times in the book of Galatians to describe the freedom that the Jews receive(d) when they are freed from the bondage of the Jewish law and customs: see *Galatians 2:4*, *Galatians 5:1*, and *Galatians 5:13* (twice). The Galatians were warned in *Galatians 5:13* not to use their freedom from the law as an occasion to sin in the flesh. Liberty is used twice in James, once in James 1:25 and once in James 2:12, to describe the “law of liberty” not to sin. That is all 18 of them. Never is the “liberty” used to grant a license to sin as the antinomian would have you believe. As we will see in the next verses we quote, liberty grants us a liberty NOT to do something and not a license to sin.

The Apostles Paul and Peter addressed the practice of Christian liberty in *Romans 8:21-23*, *1 Corinthians 8:9*, *Galatians 5:1*, *Galatians 5:13*, *1 Peter 2:15-16*, and *2 Peter 2:9-22* where we see the following:

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²¹ **Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.** ²² For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now. ²³ And not only *they*, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, *to wit*, the redemption of our body. *Romans 8:21–23*

⁹ But take heed lest by any means this **liberty** of yours become a **stumblingblock** to them that are weak. *1 Corinthians 8:9*

Stand fast therefore in the **liberty** wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the **yoke of bondage**. *Galatians 5:1*

¹³ For, brethren, ye have been called unto **liberty**; only **use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh**, but by love serve one another. *Galatians 5:13*

¹⁵ For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men: ¹⁶ As free, and not using *your* liberty for a cloke of maliciousness, but as the servants of God. *1 Peter 2:15–16*

⁹ The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished: ¹⁰ But chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness, and despise government. Presumptuous *are they*, selfwilled, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignities. ¹¹ Whereas angels, which are greater in power and might, bring not railing accusation against them before the Lord. ¹² But these, as natural brute beasts, made to be taken and destroyed, speak evil of the things that they understand not; and shall utterly perish in their own corruption; ¹³ And shall receive the reward of unrighteousness, *as* they that count it pleasure to riot in the day time. Spots *they are* and blemishes, sporting themselves with their own deceivings while they feast with you; ¹⁴ Having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; beguiling unstable souls: an heart they have exercised with covetous practices; cursed children: ¹⁵ Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam *the son* of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness; ¹⁶ But was rebuked for his iniquity: the dumb ass speaking with man's voice forbad the madness of the prophet. ¹⁷ These are wells without water, clouds that are carried with a tempest; to whom the mist of darkness is reserved for ever. ¹⁸ For when they speak great swelling *words* of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, *through much* wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error. ¹⁹ While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage. ²⁰ For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein,

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and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. ²¹ For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known *it*, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them. ²² But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog *is* turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire. *2 Peter 2:9–22*

The parallel to *2 Peter 2* is *Jude 4-19*. In both passages of Scripture that we have quoted from Peter's epistles we see both sides of liberty; a Scriptural liberty and an Unscriptural liberty. In *1 Peter 2:15-16*, Peter warns the Jews not to use their liberty from the bondage of the law as a cloke of maliciousness (sin). It was not to be used as a device to hide from their sin in. In *2 Peter 2:19*, Peter warns the Jewish believers that the men that are promising them liberty are the servants of corruption that are natural brute beasts (*verse 12*) "made to be taken and destroyed". These men are the same "certain men crept in unawares" that are described in *Jude 4*. Look at the descriptions of these men. They are church members who are false prophets and teachers that are purveyors of damnable heresies, deniers of the Lord that bought them, pernicious men whose testimonies are a scourge to the church, covetous, liars and deceivers that make merchandise of Christians, sexual perverts, unjust, lustful, unclean, presumptuous, rebellious against government, slanderers, natural brute beasts, unrighteous, beguiling unstable souls, flatterers, wanton, servants of corruption, ungodly men, lascivious, adulterers that cannot stop sinning, filthy dreamers, mockers, and finally having not the Spirit (unsaved). These men are church members in end times churches. Each of the characteristics that I have just listed are but some of the character traits of antinomians. Beware!! You had better know your doctrine folks! You should read, study, and meditate upon the warnings in *2 Peter 2* and in *Jude* because they are a prophetic description of what churches will look like just prior to the return of the Lord Jesus Christ and are already manifesting themselves as servants of corruption because they are in bondage to their sin. The overwhelming majority of our churches in America are whited sepulchres [full of dead men's bones] that are dens of iniquity and synagogues of Satan. Arguments that Eternal Security motivates people to live in sin are wrong. Such arguments have neglected to declare unto you all the counsel of the word of God. Let's read *Romans 6:1-15*, *Romans 8:12-13*, and *Titus 2:11-15*:

What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? ² God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? ³ Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? ⁴ Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. ⁵ For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also *in the likeness* of *his* resurrection: ⁶ Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with *him*, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. ⁷ For he that is dead is freed from sin. ⁸ Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him: ⁹ Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him. ¹⁰ For in that he died,

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he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God. ¹¹ Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. ¹² Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. ¹³ Neither yield ye your members *as* instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members *as* instruments of righteousness unto God. ¹⁴ For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace. ¹⁵ What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid. *Romans 6:1–15*

¹² Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh. ¹³ For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live. *Romans 8:12–13*

¹¹ For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, ¹² Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; ¹³ Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; ¹⁴ Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works. ¹⁵ These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee. *Titus 2:11–15*

Romans 6:1-15 and *Titus 2:11-15* destroy any argument that the antinomian might have that promotes the heresy that Christians are no longer subject to the moral laws of God. *Romans 6* is the nuclear option against the wantonness and reckless abandon of the heresy of antinomianism. The grace of God teaches us that we are to deny ungodliness, worldly lusts, and iniquity. *Titus 2:14* states that it is the grace of God that purifies us. The grace of God does not promote licentiousness and lasciviousness. The antinomian says we can sin because we are under grace. *Romans 6:15* states exactly the opposite in the strongest terms: “⁵ What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? **GOD FORBID.** !! Do Christians sin? Absolutely?

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WHAT HAPPENS TO ETERNALLY SECURE CHRISTIANS WHO SIN?

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We start this discussion by stating unequivocally that there are NO born again Christians who are not eternally secure in the Lord Jesus Christ. However, there is a range of consequences for Christians who commit sin. Those consequences range from guilt to death. Unless we sin the sin unto death, the first consequence of sin is the loss of fellowship with the LORD. If we commit the sin unto death, then God takes us out of this life as a consequence of that sin unto death. We will deal with the sin unto death in more depth later.

If we do not respond to Holy Ghost conviction when we sin, we could come under the chastising hand of the LORD (*Hebrews 12:5-11*). We could also be delivered to physical death if we do not repent (*Romans 8:12-13, 1 John 5:16-17, 1 Corinthians 5:1-5*). We will talk more about those later. If you are a child of God, the first consequence of sin is the guilt that comes from the convicting Spirit of the Holy Ghost. Guilt lets you know that you have offended the Holy Ghost who is in you. If after having been under conviction you do not repent, God will break fellowship with you. That fellowship will not be restored until you repent. You are still a child of God, but you out of fellowship with him. God does not disown a Christian when they sin. He deals with them as sons. He has infinite compassion for those who sin. That is why he sent his Son to the cross. I have a question for those who believe God takes their salvation away when they sin. If a man and women has a child that does something they have told them not to do, in other words, that child has sinned against them, are they still that child's mother and father? Of course, they are! That child's disobedience did not break that relationship that was established by birth. That child's disobedience broke the ideal fellowship between themselves and their mother and father. That ideal fellowship will be restored when they repent toward their parents. That is exactly the way God operates. As a born again child of God, we do not lose our eternal relationship with God when we sin. We break fellowship with God until we repent of that sin and forsake it. God gave us a roadmap to restoration of that fellowship in 1 John. Let us see some of what the Bible says about sin and the Christian.

(1) The sin of the Christian breaks fellowship with the LORD Jesus Christ and his people (*1 Corinthians 5:11-13, Ephesians 5:11, 1 John 1:3-7*).

¹¹ But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat. ¹² For what have I to do to judge them also that are without? do not ye judge them that are within? ¹³ But them that are without God judgeth. Therefore put away from among yourselves that wicked person. *1 Corinthians 5:11-13*

¹¹ And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove *them*. *Ephesians 5:11*

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³That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship *is* with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full. ⁵This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: ⁷But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. *1 John 1:3–7*

(2) The sinning Christian loses rewards (*2 John 8, 1 Corinthians 3:11-15, 2 Corinthians 5:9-10*).

⁸Look to yourselves, that we lose not *those things* which we have wrought, but *that* we receive a full reward. *2 John 8*

¹¹For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. ¹²Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; ¹³Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. ¹⁴If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. ¹⁵If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire. *1 Corinthians 3:11–15*

⁹Wherefore we labour, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him. ¹⁰For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things *done* in *his* body, according to that he hath done, whether *it be* good or bad. *2 Corinthians 5:9–10*

(3) When A Christian sins, they have an advocate with the Father (*1 John 2:1-2*)

My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: ²And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for *the sins* of the whole world. *1 John 2:1–2*

(4) When a Christian sins, they are forgiven if they will confess their sins (*1 John 1:9*).

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⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *1 John 1:9*

(5) The sinning Christian is chastened at the hand of the Father of spirits (*Hebrews 12:5-11*).

⁵ And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: ⁶ For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. ⁷ If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? ⁸ But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons. ⁹ Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected *us*, and we gave *them* reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live? ¹⁰ For they verily for a few days chastened *us* after their own pleasure; but he for *our* profit, that *we* might be partakers of his holiness. ¹¹ Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby. *Hebrews 12:5-11*

(6) There is a sin unto physical death for a Christian (*Romans 8:12-13, 1 Corinthians 5:1-5, 1 John 5:16-17*).

¹² Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh. ¹³ For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live. *Romans 8:12-13*

It is reported commonly *that there is* fornication among you, and such fornication as is not so much as named among the Gentiles, that one should have his father's wife. ² And ye are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you. ³ For I verily, as absent in body, but present in spirit, have judged already, as though I were present, *concerning* him that hath so done this deed, ⁴ In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when ye are gathered together, and my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁵ To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus. *1 Corinthians 5:1-5*

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¹⁶If any man see his brother sin a sin *which is* not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life for them that sin not unto death. There is a sin unto death: I do not say that he shall pray for it. ¹⁷All unrighteousness is sin: and there is a sin not unto death. *1 John 5:16-17*

In *Romans 8:12-13* and *1 John 5:16-17* the sin unto death is not tied to a specific sin. In *1 Corinthians 5:1-5* the sin unto death is identified as fornication by a step son with his step mother. We may have an example of the sin unto death in *Acts 5:1-11* where both Ananias and his wife Sapphira lied to God the Holy Ghost and the congregation about something they sold and were going to give all the proceeds to the church and instead held back part of the proceeds.

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Hebrews 5:9 refers to that which saved folk have in the Lord Jesus Christ as “**eternal salvation**”. We have already shown that the New Testament refers to that eternal salvation as either “*eternal life*” or “*everlasting life*” at least 45 different times. Eternal or everlasting cannot be called temporary life or conditional life. *1 Peter 1:3-4* refers to this everlasting life as follows:

³ Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, **and that fadeth not away**, reserved in heaven for you, *1 Peter 1:3-4*

Peter said it “**fadeth not away**”. That is another way of saying that it is eternal or everlasting. Before we proceed further we need to look at how the words “save”, “saved”, and “saving” are used in the New Testament.

The word “save” and its cognates occur 124 times in the New Testament. That group of cognates includes the words “save”, “saved”, and “saving”. We read and studied all of those in context. In the context of our study on Eternal Security, it is very important to understand that the use of the words “save”, “saved”, or “saving” is not always about the salvation of the soul. The word “save” is used 22 times of the soul and spirit in the New Testament. The word “saved” is used 43 times of the soul and spirit in the New Testament. The word “saving” is used once of the soul and spirit in the New Testament. The word “save” is used of the flesh 18 times in the New Testament. The word “saved” is used of the flesh 15 times in the New Testament. The word “saving” is used of the flesh one time in the New Testament. The word “save” is used in the sense of “except” 22 times in the New Testament. The word “saving” is used in the sense of “excepting” 3 times in the New Testament. Now, why did we do all that research? Because *Matthew 10:22*, *Matthew 24:13*, *Matthew 24:22*, *Mark 13:13*, and *Mark 13:20* are wrongfully used to teach that you must endure to the end to be saved. That is a big problem. Those verses have nothing to do with the saving of the soul and spirit. Everyone of them is a reference to the saving of the flesh. If the words “saved” are interpreted in the full context of where they occur, it is obvious that saved is talking about the flesh being saved and not the soul and spirit. We will discuss those verses later.

This part of our study is not intended to address every passage that is, or could be, used to deny the doctrine of Eternal Security. This section also will not address any passages that are used to advocate for works based salvation even though a denial of Eternal Security is an advocacy for works based salvation. If you believe through sin, or through your evil works, or through your lack of good works, that you can lose your salvation and then get it back, you are putting the Lord Jesus Christ to open shame. You are crucifying him again and again (*Hebrews 6:4-6*).

There are **at least** 21 verses that are wrongfully used to teach that you can lose your salvation. They include:

Matthew 7:21, Matthew 8:11-12, Matthew 10:22, Matthew 24:13, Matthew 25:1-13,

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Matthew 25:14-30, Mark 13:13, Luke 9:62, John 15:6, Romans 11:19-23, 1 Corinthians 9:27, Philippians 2:12, Philippians 3:9-14, Hebrews 6:4-6, Hebrews 10:29, Hebrews 12:15, James 2:24, 1 Peter 1:9, 1 Peter 4:18, 2 Peter 2:20-22, and Revelation 22:18-19.

Of those 21, we are going to look at *Matthew 7:21, Matthew 10:22, Matthew 24:13, Mark 13:13, 1 Corinthians 9:27, Hebrews 6:4-6, Hebrews 10:29, and Hebrews 12:15.*

MATTHEW 7:15-23

¹⁵ Beware of **false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.** ¹⁶ Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of **thorns**, or figs of **thistles?** ¹⁷ Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but **a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit.** ¹⁸ A good tree cannot bring forth **evil fruit**, neither *can* a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. ¹⁹ Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. ²⁰ Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them. ²¹ 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. ²² Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? **and in thy name done many wonderful works?** ²³ And then will I profess unto them, **I never knew you:** depart from me, ye that work iniquity. *Matthew 7:15-23*

In *Matthew 7:15-23*, we have very religious people who have tried to work their way to heaven by performing religious works. Notice they were boasting about the many wonderful works they had done in Jesus name. Yet, the Lord Jesus Christ called these religious folks ravening wolves, thorns, thistles, corrupt trees, and evil fruit. After having identified these religious people by their evil fruits, he leaves no doubt that they were never saved to start with when he said: "I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity". At the outset, these religious folks had no salvation to lose. I want you to notice something else very alarming about these religious folks! They were casting out devils in Jesus' name. That statement should bring into focus a very vivid image of what we see, and have seen happening now and historically in many of the meetings of the Charismatic and Pentecostal movements. They make a mockery of the Lord Jesus Christ and the church of the living God. They bring reproach upon the Lord Jesus Christ and his church. Many of these heretics go about lightly claiming they are rebuking Satan and casting out devils and evil spirits in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. They are presumptuous. Those who do these things presumptuously should hear the warning of the Holy Ghost from *Acts 19:13-17* and *Jude 8-10*:

¹³ Then certain of the vagabond Jews, exorcists, took upon them to call over them which had evil spirits the name of the Lord Jesus, saying, We adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preacheth. ¹⁴ And there were seven sons of *one* Sceva, a Jew, *and* chief of the priests, which did so. ¹⁵ And the evil spirit answered and said, Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye? ¹⁶ And the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped

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on them, and overcame them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded. ¹⁷ And this was known to all the Jews and Greeks also dwelling at Ephesus; and fear fell on them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was magnified. *Acts 19:13–17*

⁸ Likewise also these *filthy* dreamers defile the flesh, despise dominion, and speak evil of dignities. ⁹ Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against *him* a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee. ¹⁰ But these speak evil of those *things* which they know not: but what they know naturally, as brute beasts, in those *things* they corrupt themselves. *Jude 8–10*

There is a very strong message in these two passages of scripture. Note that in *Acts 19* that God allowed the man who was possessed of an evil spirit to beat the living daylights out of seven, unsaved religionists, and to strip them of their clothes, and to run them off; what a scene. Notice in *Jude 8-10* that the archangel Michael dared not bring a railing accusation against the devil. You had better remember the example of the archangel Michael the next time you presumptuously take it upon yourself (*Acts 19:13*) to rebuke the devil. It is very doubtful that there has been any Holy Ghost anointed fasting and prayer for the vast majority of the meetings where the Charismatics and Pentecostals claim to be casting out devils. There is a Scriptural requirement for prayer and fasting when preparing to deal with devils and evil spirits. See *Matthew 17:14-21* and *Mark 9:17-29* for proof of that. I would argue that instead of the Charismatics and Pentecostals casting out devils and evil spirits they are consorting with devils and evil spirits. Before moving on, we state again that those in *Matthew 7:23* were never saved to start with. Next up, we deal with *Matthew 10:22*:

MATTHEW 10:19–22

¹⁹ But when they deliver you up, take no thought how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak. ²⁰ For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you. ²¹ **And the brother shall deliver up the brother to death, and the father the child:** and the children shall rise up against *their* parents, and cause them to be put to death. ²² And ye shall be hated of all *men* for my name's sake: **but he that endureth to the end shall be saved.** *Matthew 10:19–22*

Those who pull verse 22 out of context make a serious blunder here. There is an old axiom that teaches that “any text taken out of context is a pretext for teaching false doctrine and heresy”. It is obvious from the context of *Matthew 10:19–22* that salvation of the soul and spirit are not in view here. Verse 21 clearly states, “And the brother shall deliver up the brother to death, and the father the child”. That is talking about the death of the physical body. It is not our physical body that is saved in salvation. In speaking to the **BRETHREN** at Philippi, Paul stated that the Lord Jesus Christ would “change our vile body” so that it would be “fashioned like unto his glorious body” (*Philippians 3:17-21*). The Rapture is the “redemption of our body” (*Romans 8:23*). Next, we move

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on to *Matthew 24:13*:

MATTHEW 24:9-22

⁹ Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, **and shall kill you:** and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake. ¹⁰ And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another. ¹¹ And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. ¹² And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. ¹³ **But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.** ¹⁴ And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come. ¹⁵ When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) ¹⁶ Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains: ¹⁷ Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house: ¹⁸ Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes. ¹⁹ And woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days! ²⁰ But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day: ²¹ For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. ²² And except those days should be shortened, there should **no flesh be saved:** but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.
Matthew 24:9-22

Matthew 24:9-22 is a prophetic Tribulation passage. It is used by some to teach that some folks will be able to lose their salvation during the Tribulation. That makes Eternal Security a dispensational doctrine. We do not agree with that, but we cannot take the time here to deal with it. Others include *Matthew 24:13* in a list of verses that they falsely claim prove you can lose your salvation. Anyone who claims that *Matthew 24:13* proves you can lose your salvation is wrong. *Matthew 24:9* uses the phrase "and shall kill you". *Matthew 24:22* says, "except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved". It is obvious that what both of those verses are referring to as being saved is the bodies of flesh. *Matthew 24:13* is pulled out of context on the pretext of proving a false doctrine that says you can lose your salvation. Once again, "any text taken out of context is a pretext for teaching false doctrine and heresy". Next, we will consider *Mark 13:13*:

MARK 13:9-20

⁹ But take heed to yourselves: for they shall deliver you up to councils; and in the synagogues ye shall be beaten: and ye shall be brought before rulers and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them. ¹⁰ And the gospel must first be published among all nations. ¹¹ But when they shall lead *you*, and deliver you up, take no thought beforehand what ye shall speak, neither do ye premeditate: but whatsoever shall be given you in that hour, that speak ye: for it is not ye that speak, but the Holy Ghost. ¹² **Now the brother shall betray the brother to death, and the father the son; and children shall rise up against their parents, and shall cause them to be put to death.** ¹³ And ye shall be hated of all *men* for my name's sake: **but he that shall**

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endure unto the end, the same shall be saved. ¹⁴ But when ye shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing where it ought not, (let him that readeth understand,) then let them that be in Judaea flee to the mountains: ¹⁵ And let him that is on the housetop not go down into the house, neither enter *therein*, to take any thing out of his house: ¹⁶ And let him that is in the field not turn back again for to take up his garment. ¹⁷ But woe to them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days! ¹⁸ And pray ye that your flight be not in the winter. ¹⁹ For *in* those days shall be affliction, such as was not from the beginning of the creation which God created unto this time, neither shall be. ²⁰ **And except that the Lord had shortened those days, no flesh should be saved:** but for the elect's sake, whom he hath chosen, he hath shortened the days. *Mark 13:9–20*

Mark 13:9–20 is another prophetic Tribulation passage. It is also used by some to teach that some folks will be able to lose their salvation during the Tribulation. That makes Eternal Security a dispensational doctrine. We do not agree with that, but we cannot take the time here to deal with it. Others include *Mark 13:13* in a list of verses that they falsely claim prove you can lose your salvation. If you look closely at *Mark 13:12*, you will notice that it refers to those put to physical death for the gospel's sake. *Mark 13:20* states that except the days of the Tribulation be shortened that **“no flesh should be saved”**. Once again, that word “saved” is being used in this context to refer to the death of the physical body and not to the soul and spirit. *Mark 13:13* is pulled out of context on the pretext of proving a false doctrine that says you can lose your salvation. Once again, **“any text taken out of context is a pretext for teaching false doctrine and heresy”**. Next, we will discuss *1 Corinthians 9:27*:

1 CORINTHIANS 9:18-27

¹⁸ What is my reward then? *Verily* that, when I preach the gospel, I may make the gospel of Christ without charge, that I abuse not my power in the gospel. ¹⁹ For though I be free from all *men*, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more. ²⁰ And unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain the Jews; to them that are under the law, as under the law, that I might gain them that are under the law; ²¹ To them that are without law, as without law, (being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ,) that I might gain them that are without law. ²² To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all *men*, that I might by all means save some. ²³ And this I do for the gospel's sake, that I might be partaker thereof with *you*. ²⁴ Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain. ²⁵ And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they *do it* to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible. ²⁶ I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air: ²⁷ But I keep under my body, and bring *it* into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway. *1 Corinthians 9:18–27*

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The whole context of *1 Corinthians 9* is Christian service. It has nothing to do with Paul's personal salvation. If we look at *1 Corinthians 9*, one of its themes is the responsibility of congregations to financially take care of the man of God who preaches the gospel. It is also about what the attitude of a preacher should be toward those lost folks that he preaches the gospel to. The preacher is not to be prejudicial as to who he will preach the gospel to. Up to chapter 9 in *1 Corinthians*, Paul has preached and taught against the carnality of the church at Corinth. His whole point in *1 Corinthians 9:27* was that he had to be very careful that he would not become a hypocrite to those things that he had preached and taught against. He acknowledges that if he allowed it, carnality could become an issue that could result in his becoming a castaway from his ministry of preaching the gospel. He acknowledged that if he did not keep his body in subjection he could be put on the shelf and not be used of God to preach the gospel. His fear was being cast away from service: not being cast away from salvation. Those who believe you can lose your salvation pull the word "castaway" COMPLETELY out of its doctrinal context and use it to teach false doctrine and heresy. Once again, "any text taken out of context is a pretext for teaching false doctrine and heresy". We next move to the book of Hebrews which is considered to be the fortress of those who believe that we can lose our salvation. We will look at *Hebrews 6:1-9* first. It reads as follows:

HEBREWS 6:1-9

Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, ² Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. ³ And this will we do, if God permit. ⁴ **For it is impossible** for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, ⁵ And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, ⁶ If they shall fall away, **to renew them again unto repentance;** seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put *him* to an open shame. ⁷ For the earth which drinketh in the rain that cometh oft upon it, and bringeth forth herbs meet for them by whom it is dressed, receiveth blessing from God: ⁸ But that which beareth thorns and briers *is* rejected, and *is* nigh unto cursing; whose end *is* to be burned. ⁹ **But, beloved, we are persuaded better things of you, and things that accompany salvation,** though we thus speak. *Hebrews 6:1-9*

Believe it or not folks, the majority of professing Christians are taught that you can lose your salvation, give salvation back, or that you can never have assurance of salvation. The book of Hebrews is the go to book for those who teach that you can lose your salvation. They use *Hebrews 6:4-6*, *Hebrews 10:26*, and *Hebrews 12:15* to teach that you can lose your salvation. THE BOOK OF HEBREWS DOES NOT TEACH THAT YOU CAN LOSE YOUR SALVATION. Rightly divided, the book of Hebrews is one of the strongest defenses of eternal security in the New Testament. As we get to *Hebrews 6:4-6*, *Hebrews 10:26*, and *Hebrews 12:15*, we will deal with them in context. We are now in Hebrews chapter 6 in our study.

Satan rears his ugly head when we pull a passage of Scripture out of its immediate context, or out

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of its doctrinal context, and use it to teach false doctrine. That is exactly what happens in *Hebrews 6*. *Hebrews 6:9* destroys any idea that *Hebrews 6* is about losing your salvation. That verse says: “But, beloved, we are persuaded better things of you, **and things that accompany salvation**, though we thus speak”. Verse 9 says that verses 4-8 are all about unbelievers. For years, I have taught that *Hebrews 6:4-6* destroys any doctrine that states that that you can lose your salvation and get it back again. I still believe that. *Hebrews 6:4-6* says that if you could lose your salvation it would be **IMPOSSIBLE** to be renewed unto repentance again. *Hebrews 6:6* says that if it were possible to renew someone to repentance, then the Lord Jesus Christ would have to be crucified for them again. *Hebrews 6:6* also states that if you believe someone can be renewed to repentance after they supposedly fall away, then you put the Lord Jesus Christ to open shame. That is a very strong statement.

Repentanceless faith sends you to hell. Faithless repentance sends you to hell. If you have not repented, that is evidence you have not exercised saving faith. Repentance is direct proof from the Holy Ghost that you have not believed a lie leading to a counterfeit salvation. Our churches are full of members who have made false professions. If you have been led in a faithless sinner’s prayer, you have a repentanceless, false profession that is going to lead you straight into the pits of hell. Faithless sinner’s prayers have become the Nehushtans of most churches in America. By the time of King Hezekiah, that brasen serpent of *Numbers 21:6-9* had become Nehushtan and was worshipped as an idol. The sinner’s prayer is a deceptive religious symbol that needs to be destroyed just as the brasen serpent was in *2 Kings 18:4*. No one would deny that the brasen serpent was a good thing until Israel turned it into an idol. The real sinner’s prayer is a good thing until it is turned into an idol that replaces the Lord Jesus Christ. It is a damnable heresy that has lost sinners place their faith in a sinner’s prayer rather than the Lord Jesus Christ. **False professions have become the leprosy of Independent Baptist churches.** That brings me to a second application of *Hebrews 6:4-9*.

In looking at *Hebrews 6:6* in my Bible, I noticed a cross reference to *Hebrews 10:29*. Why do you think that cross reference is there? Both verses are a severe warning to those who chronically reject the work of the Holy Ghost in attempting to bring them to salvation. It is a severe warning to those who claim you can lose your salvation. It is a severe warning to those who claim their habitual sin is backsliding when they are lost and they know they are lost. The Holy Ghost has told them that they are lost many times. Their problem is not backsliding. They never slid up to start with. I used to work with a lady who was a Pentecostal out of the Assemblies of God who said you Baptists believe you can get saved and live any way you want to because you believe in “once saved always saved”. I told her that I did not believe you could get saved and live like you want to because if you did, you never got saved to start with. All of those who claim to be saved whose conduct screams “Hey, I am going to hell” are putting the Lord Jesus Christ to open shame. Their unholy conduct proves that they count the blood of Jesus to be an unholy thing. They are constantly trodding under foot the Son of God. I would argue in 2026 that unsaved professors have gone past trodding under foot the Son of God and moved on to stomping all over the Son of God.

Hebrews 6:4-15 also addresses three types of church goers. The first two types are those who say they are Christians and are not and those who have sit year after year on the pews of Bible believing churches under Holy Ghost anointed preaching and are still lost and on their way to a Devil’s hell. In the first group, we have those who claim to be saved and are not. In the second group we have

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those who have been preached to for years and have never made a move toward God. In *verse 7*, they have the water of the word poured on them year after year after year and they produce nothing but thorns and briers whose end is to be burned (*verse 8*). That is a picture of hell. Put another way, instead of producing works that are the fruits of the repentance required in *verse 6* they produce the thorns and briers of *verse 8*. *Verse 9* is what drives the point home. It contrasts the fruits of the unsaved from *verse 8* with the fruits of the saved in *verse 7* and *verses 11-15*. What is the common denominator between these three groups: those three being (1) the saved Christian, (2) the unsaved professing Christian, and (3) those who have never made a move toward God? Can we also say who is the common denominator. That common denominator is the Person and work of the Holy Ghost. All three groups have seen the power of God manifested through the ministry of the Holy Ghost. They have felt the presence of the Holy Ghost. The light of the glorious gospel was shed upon them by the Holy Ghost. They tasted the sweetness of the fruits of that repentance that is the heavenly gift of the Holy Ghost. Saving repentance is both a work and a gift of the Holy Ghost. These folks in Hebrews were also made partakers of the convicting and drawing power of the Holy Ghost. These folks have also tasted the good word of God whose author is the Holy Ghost. Through the presence of the Holy Ghost, they have tasted but a little of the powers of the world to come. When we sense the presence of God through the power of the Holy Ghost, we are sensing the presence of pure love “because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given us”. It is love without dissimulation.

That Holy Ghost here in *Hebrews 6* is that same Holy Ghost that works mightily in any congregation that will not resist him. It is that same Holy Ghost that uses the sword of the Spirit to strike down the sword of contention, the sword of division, the sword of strife, the sword of bitterness, and the sword of unrepentant and unconfessed sin all of which are designed and wielded by Satan to cut a church asunder. Brother Sammy Allen use to start out many of his services by making people promise that they would not do anything to grieve the Holy Ghost because he was the most sensitive person on the congregation. Will you yield to the work of the Holy Ghost?? Or, will you be an offense to the Holy Ghost??

The consequences of the Jewish people rejecting the work of the Holy Ghost is one of the great themes of the book of Hebrews. We see it in *Hebrews 3, 4, 6, 10, and 12*. What we see happening here in *Hebrews 6* is somewhat akin to the events in *Matthew 12:22-32* where the blasphemy of the Holy Ghost is dealt with. Wow! I made that statement before I saw the marginal reference for *Hebrews 6:4* that cross referenced it to *Matthew 12:31*. I will deal with that issue in greater depth later when studying *Hebrews 10*. Next in our study, we turn to *Hebrews 10:15-29*:

HEBREWS 10:15-29

¹⁵ *Whereof* the Holy Ghost also is a witness to us: for after that he had said before,

¹⁶ *This is* the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them; ¹⁷ And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more. ¹⁸ Now where remission of these *is, there is* no more offering for sin. ¹⁹ Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; ²¹ And *having* an high

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priest over the house of God; ²² Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³ Let us hold fast the profession of *our* faith without wavering; (for he *is* faithful that promised;) ²⁴ And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: ²⁵ Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some *is*; but exhorting *one another*: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching. ²⁶ For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, ²⁷ But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries. ²⁸ He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses: ²⁹ Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?
Hebrews 10:15–29

Hebrews 10:28-31 is a dire warning of impending judgment specifically directed at the Jews who had defamed and rejected the work of the Holy Ghost in trying to bring them to faith and repentance. Read again *Hebrews 10:28-31* followed by all the following passages: *Matthew 12:31-32*, *Acts 7:51-52*, *Hebrews 3:7-8*, and *Hebrews 6:4-6*:

Matthew 12:31–32

³¹ Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy *against* the *Holy* Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men. ³² And whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, neither in the *world* to come.

Acts 7:51–52

⁵¹ Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers *did*, so *do* ye. ⁵² Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted? and they have slain them which shewed before of the coming of the Just One; of whom ye have been now the betrayers and murderers:

Hebrews 3:7–8

⁷ Wherefore (as the Holy Ghost saith, To day if ye will hear his voice, ⁸ Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation, in the day of temptation in the wilderness:

Hebrews 6:4–6

⁴ For *it is* impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, ⁵ And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, ⁶ If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh,

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and put *him* to an open shame.

Hebrews 12:15–17

¹⁵ Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble *you*, and thereby many be defiled; ¹⁶ Lest there *be* any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright. ¹⁷ For ye know how that afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected: for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears.

Matthew 12:31-32 is a teaser. To get full benefit of those two verses, you need to read and *study Matthew 12:22-32* and *Mark 3:22-30*. Take a close look at the first four passages just quoted and add *Hebrews 10:29* to them. That is five passages total. Each of those passages involve some aspect of the ministry of the Holy Ghost to the Jewish people. In *Matthew 12:31-32*, they did despite to the work of the Spirit of grace by blaspheming the Holy Ghost who is the possessor of the Spirit of grace. The Jews blasphemed the Holy Ghost. Folks, put simply, blasphemy of the Holy Ghost is giving credit to the Devil for the works that the Holy Ghost has accomplished. The Jews rejected the works of the Holy Ghost. What followed in *Matthew 27:24-25* is the most tragic application in the history of the world of the warning that you had better be careful what you ask for: They asked that the blood of Jesus be on them and my how it has been.

To reap the full benefit of *Acts 7:51-52*, you need to read *Acts 7:37-54*. In *Acts 7:51-52*, the Jews did despite to the Spirit of grace by resisting the work of the Holy Ghost. The Jews well understood the consequences of their actions when Stephen called out their uncircumcised heart and their uncircumcised ears. That would have immediately driven their thoughts back to *Jeremiah 6:10-19* where we see one of the most tragic consequences in the Bible of rejecting the word of God. *Jeremiah 6:10* says that they could not harken unto the warning of the prophet because they had uncircumcised ears. Those uncircumcised ears were the fruit of an uncircumcised (unbelieving) heart. What followed their rejection of the word of God was death. What eventually followed the Jews resisting the Holy Ghost in *Acts 7:51-52* is the judicial blinding of the NATION of Israel and all the bloodshed and death that has followed the Jew in the last 2,000 years.

In *Hebrews 3:7–8*, the Jews in the wilderness hardened their hearts against the work of the Holy Ghost in the wilderness. The consequence of that hardening was once again death. All the Israelites but two died in the wilderness being denied entry into the Promised Land. The cause of the hardness of their heart was that they had again rejected the word of God. In unbelief, they rejected the preaching of the word of God. *Hebrews 4:2* says that the preached word of God did not profit them because it was not mixed with faith. When you continuously reject the word of God it works in a vicious circle of condemnation. “So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (*Romans 10:17*). But, you have rejected the word of God. So, where is the faith coming from? That is the vicious circle. When you reject the word of God, it is a soul damning offense to the Holy Ghost who is the author of the word of God. To reject the word of God, does despite to the Spirit of grace. If you do not repent of your rejection of the word of God, you will die and go to hell. To get a better understanding of the consequences of Israel hardening their hearts against the Holy Ghost read and study *Hebrews 3:7* through *Hebrews 4:11*. We have already spoken in much more detail on *Hebrews*

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3:7 through *Hebrews 4:11*.

In *Hebrews 6:4–6*, we see an offense to the Holy Ghost that is closely akin to that in *Hebrews 10:29*. In both cases severe judgment is pronounced upon those guilty of rejecting the Holy Ghost because in the one case their rejection puts the Lord Jesus Christ to open shame and in the other case they have trodden under foot the Son of God by counting his blood as an unholy thing. Rejecting the blood of Jesus puts us under the damnation of **HELL FIRE**. It is either the blood of Jesus or hell. In *2 Peter 2:20–22* we have a parallel to *Hebrews 6:4–6*:

2 Peter 2:20–22

²⁰ For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. ²¹ For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known *it*, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them. ²² But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog *is* turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.

Now, Let us move on to *Hebrews 10:38–39* which says this:

Hebrews 10:38–39

³⁸ Now the just shall live by faith: but if *any man* draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him. ³⁹ But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.

Part of *Hebrews 10:38* is quoted from *Habakkuk 2:4*. *Habakkuk 2:4* is also quoted in *Romans 1:17* and *Galatians 3:11*. It states that “*the just shall live by faith*”. Justification (the just) is by faith. “*Whatsoever is not of faith is sin*” (*Romans 14:23*). The faith that is talked of in *Hebrews 10:38* is soul saving faith. It is a warning to those who are unbelieving false professors. They will be drawn back into perdition because they have never exercised saving faith. These are like the disciples of *John 6:66* that no more walked with Jesus. It is obvious that Paul is talking about those who say they are saved and are not. *Hebrews 10:38–39* destroys the idea that *Hebrews 10:26–39* is about losing one’s salvation. Listen again very carefully and meditate upon those two verses:

³⁸ Now the just shall live by faith: but if *any man* draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him. ³⁹ But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul. *Hebrews 10:38–39*

We now move on to *Hebrews 12:5–17* where it is written:

HEBREWS 12:5–17

⁵ And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children,

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My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: ⁶For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. ⁷If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? ⁸But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons. ⁹Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected *us*, and we gave *them* reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live? ¹⁰For they verily for a few days chastened *us* after their own pleasure; but he for *our* profit, that *we* might be partakers of his holiness. ¹¹Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby. ¹²Wherefore lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees; ¹³And make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way; but let it rather be healed. ¹⁴Follow peace with all *men*, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord: ¹⁵Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble *you*, and thereby many be defiled; ¹⁶Lest there *be* any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright. ¹⁷For ye know how that afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected: for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears.

Hebrews 12:5-17

Hebrews 12:15-17 warns us that if you are an illegitimate child that claims to be saved that you will eventually find yourself in the place of Esau who sinned away his day of grace: Esau failed of the grace of God. Esau failed of the grace of God because he never put his faith in God. It was not that he was saved and then fell away. When the Holy Ghost said that Esau was a PROFANE PERSON, that means that Esau was an unsaved man. Esau sought repentance with tears, but it could not be found because the Holy Ghost was not in him. Neither would the Holy Ghost ever be in him. He was condemned to hell. He had been rejected and turned over to a reprobate mind. If you are under my voice today, and if you have rejected the conviction of the Holy Ghost over and over again, where will it end? Will it end at the Great White Throne judgment where the unsaved, death itself, and hell itself are cast into the lake of fire where they will burn for ever, and ever, and ever, and ever?? *Isaiah 33:14* asks the question: “Who among us shall dwell with the devouring fire? Who among us shall dwell with everlasting burnings?”. Am I talking to you today friend. Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap (*Galatians 6:7*). If you sow unto hell, you are going to be reaped into hell and the lake of fire. The apostle Paul also issued the following warning in *Hebrews 10:26-27* and *2 Thessalonians 1:7-8*:

Hebrews 10:26-27

²⁶For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, ²⁷But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries.

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2 Thessalonians 1:7–8

⁷ And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, ⁸ In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:

If you have any doubts about the reality of hell, I would encourage you to read, study, and meditate upon *Revelation 20:11-15* and *Luke 16:19-31* again and again letting those verses and the Holy Ghost rattle your spiritual cage. If you do not put your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and repent of your sin, you are going to die and go to hell where you will burn for ever. Is that what you want?? Will you be the one of those among us that dwells in the everlasting burnings. The doctrine of hell is mentioned 54 times in the King James Bible. When we include hell, the doctrine of eternal punishment is mentioned at least 88 times in the King James Bible. Are you ready for hell? The next time you start thinking hell is not real why don't you turn on the largest burner on your kitchen stove, sit down on it, and meditate upon hell for a while!! Do you know for sure that if you were to die today that you would not go to hell? You can know. "These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God" (*1 John 5:13*). I was not going to do this, but God has impressed upon me the need to present the following observations on *Hebrews 3:7–4:11*:

⁷ Wherefore (as the Holy Ghost saith, To day if ye will hear his voice, ⁸ Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation, in the day of temptation in the wilderness: ⁹ When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my works forty years. ¹⁰ Wherefore I was grieved with that generation, and said, They do alway err in *their* heart; and they have not known my ways. ¹¹ So I sware in my wrath, They shall not enter into my rest.) ¹² Take heed, brethren, **lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.** ¹³ But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. ¹⁴ For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast unto the end; ¹⁵ While it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation. ¹⁶ For some, when they had heard, did provoke: howbeit not all that came out of Egypt by Moses. ¹⁷ But with whom was he grieved forty years? *was it not* with them that had sinned, whose carcasses fell in the wilderness? ¹⁸ And to whom sware he that they should not enter into his rest, but to them that believed not? ¹⁹ So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief.

4 Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left *us* of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it. ² For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: **but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it.** ³ For we which have believed do enter into rest, as he said, As I have sworn in my wrath, if they shall enter into my rest: although the works were finished from the foundation of the world. ⁴ For he spake in a certain place of the seventh *day* on this wise, And God did rest the seventh day from all his works.

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⁵ And in this *place* again, If they shall enter into my rest. ⁶ Seeing therefore it remaineth that some must enter therein, and they **to whom it was first preached entered not in because of unbelief:** ⁷ Again, he limiteth a certain day, saying in David, To day, after so long a time; as it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts. ⁸ For if Jesus had given them rest, then would he not afterward have spoken of another day. ⁹ There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God. ¹⁰ For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God *did* from his. ¹¹ **Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.** *Hebrews 3:7-4:11*

Hebrews 3:7 proves that the Holy Ghost was in existence in the Old Testament because it credits him with having stated the words of *Psalms 95:7-11*. Remember that the Holy Ghost is the author of all Biblical scriptures. A point of order is necessary here. I do not want you to have a heart attack here, but in the King James Bible the “*Holy Spirit*” is not the third person of the theological Trinity. In the King James Bible, the HOLY GHOST is the third person of the Godhead. In the King James Bible, the theological Trinity is called the Godhead. The work of the HOLY GHOST in any body of flesh is the work of “the Spirit” with the word “*Spirit*” being capitalized. The term “*Holy Spirit*” only occurs seven times in its various cases throughout the King James Bible. In *Psalms 51:11* both words are lower case. In *Isaiah 63:10*, *Isaiah 63:11*, *Ephesians 1:13*, *Ephesians 4:30*, and *1 Thessalonians 4:8* “*holy*” is in lower case and “*Spirit*” is in upper case. The only place where both words are in upper case, “*Holy Spirit*”, is in *Luke 11:13*. The phrase “*Holy Ghost*” occurs 90 times in your King James Bible. The Holy Ghost does not show up in any of the modern English perversions of the Bible. There is an unequivocal message in that also. The phrase “*Holy Ghost*” came to us from the Anglo-Saxon Gospels whose roots are in the Germanic languages. The word “*spirit*” came to us from one of the Latin versions. Let us get back to Hebrews chapter 3.

Hebrews 3:7 through *Hebrews 4:11* destroys the whole idea of a works based salvation because it proves that if you are working for your salvation, then you have not come to rest in the Lord Jesus Christ who is our rest and our Sabbath. The events mentioned in these 24 verses refer back to *Psalms 95:7-11*. Both *Psalms 95:7-11* and *Hebrews 3:7* through *Hebrews 4:11* refer to the rebellion of the children of Israel in *Exodus 17:1-7* and *Numbers 14:1-36*. In *Hebrews 3:7* through *Hebrews 4:11*, there is not a good work of man mentioned anywhere in the context of those 24 verses. All of their works were evil. If the motivation and source of our works are not built upon a foundation of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, you will hear the following at the Great White Throne judgment:

Matthew 7:21–23

²¹ 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. ²² Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? ²³ And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

God the Father’s will is that you would accept his Son’s works for your salvation. God’s will is that

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you would obey the gospel. God's will is that everyone would come to repentance and do faith based works that are evidences of repentance. Without faith it is impossible to please God with your works (*Hebrews 11:6*). The Bible says that "The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the LORD....how much more, when he bringeth it with a wicked mind"(*Proverbs 15:8/Proverbs 21:27*). It is God's works and not man's works that is the emphasis in Hebrews chapters 3 and 4. The problem in *Hebrews 3:7* through *Hebrews 4:11* is not just the deception of faithless good works. It is a heart problem. They had a hardened heart problem. They erred in their hearts in *Hebrews 3:10*; had an evil heart in *Hebrews 3:12*; and had a hardened heart in *Hebrews 3:15, 3:18, and 4:7*. It was their hardened hearts that was the root cause of their unbelief. Their lack of faith is identified in *Hebrews 3:12* as "an evil heart of unbelief", as having not believed in *Hebrews 3:18*, as unbelief in *Hebrews 3:19*, as not having the preaching being mixed with faith in *Hebrews 4:2*, and finally as unbelief again in *Hebrews 4:6*. In these 24 verses, we have a very heavy emphasis upon rest. Rest indicates an absence of work and works. Twelve different times the word "rest" is either directly stated or inferred in these 24 verses. If you try to work for salvation, you are going to get very tired and at the end of it all you will discover that your works were in vain as you are cast into hell. That seventh day of rest in *Hebrews 4:4* is an eternal day of rest. That day of rest is not just a time period. It is a person; the eternal Son of God. Thank God for that eternal day of rest. Your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ is your rest unlike the works of the Israelites in the wilderness that this extended passage refers to.

Three different times the preaching of the gospel and the word of God are mentioned in *Hebrews 4*. In *Hebrews 4:2*, we see both the believer and the unbeliever. In the first case, Paul and his Christian brethren heard the preaching, received it, believed it, and are saved and on their way to heaven. In the second case, those that had hardened their hearts heard the preaching, in unbelief rejected it, and are lost and on their way to an everlasting lake of fire. *Hebrews 4:12* is a powerful statement that the word preached did not return void. The word preached had discerned the thoughts and intents of the hearts that had rejected it.

In summary, in the book of Hebrews, the charge laid to the Jews was not that they had lost their salvation, or that they could lose their salvation, but that they had never believed to start with. *Hebrews 3:7-4:11* forms a rock solid foundation for rejecting the false teaching that you can lose your salvation. You cannot lose that which you never had to start with. The theme of Hebrews chapters 3, 4, 6, 10, and 12 is the history and consequences of the Jews having rejected the ministry of the Holy Ghost in his attempts to bring them to faith in God the Father and God the Son. Those chapters are a dire warning to any who would trust in their works to get them to salvation, or to keep them in salvation. Their works were identified as being totally corrupt and in wilful, confrontational rebellion against God the Holy Ghost. After having warned the Jews in Hebrews chapters 3, 4, 6, and 10 of the great danger of hardening their hearts to the work of the Holy Ghost in bringing them to faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, the Holy Ghost follows those warnings with the single greatest passage in the Bible on "FAITH". Why? Because there was no saving faith evidenced in those Jews that he condemned in Hebrews chapters 3, 4, 6, and 10. In Hebrews 11 the word "faith" is used 25 times. In Hebrews 11, the Holy Ghost is adding his exclamation point to the lack of saving faith in the unsaved Jews who resisted the Holy Ghost. In Hebrews 11, the Holy Ghost gave the unsaved Jews 21 separate examples of what saving faith should look like. The purpose in that was to remind them

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that their wicked works did not meet God's standards because without faith it is impossible to please God. There was no faith in those Jews who were the subjects of his warnings.

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CONCLUSION

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In this concluding session, we are going to repeat our discussion on *1 John 3:9*. You need to do a deep dive on that verse, meditate upon it, and ask the Holy Ghost to help you understand and apply it. On the surface there is obviously a very serious conflict between *1 John 3:9* and *1 John 1:8-10*:

⁸If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. *1 John 1:8-10*

⁹Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God. *1 John 3:9*

In fact, to the unsaved and Christians who have consumed a diet of doctrinal milk, there exists an in your face contradiction. How do we resolve the apparent contradiction? He that hath ears to hear, let him hear. What follows is a repeat and quote of what we talked about from pages 29-30 of this document.

We have those who argue that we can lose our salvation if we sin. In its many forms, that is really the doctrine held to by most of professing Christianity today. Many refer to it as Arminianism. It is a denial of every eternal and everlasting that is applied to the life that faith in the Lord Jesus Christ brings to every born again believer. Conditional eternal life or conditional everlasting life makes salvation based upon something you do or do not do. Life that can be taken back or given back is not everlasting or eternal. Conditional eternal life and conditional everlasting life are contradictions in terms and logic. *1 John* deals with sin in a manner that no other book in the Bible does. There are some things in it that are hard to be understood and hard to be received. For those who believe that anyone can lose their salvation because of sin, I would like to ask them how they apply *1 John 3:9* to that doctrine.

There is a group among the Methodists called Wesleyans that teach the false doctrine of “entire sanctification” and one of their proof texts for it is *1 John 3:9*. That doctrine is also referred to as “sinless perfection”. The doctrine says, “*I have not sinned today and will not sin tomorrow. I cannot sin*”. How does that line up with *1 John 1:8-10*?

The Apostle John said that if we say we have no sin, then we are liars and the truth is not in us. That means that John had sin. Does that mean that John lost his salvation? If so, how many times did John lose his salvation. That raises another question: how many times did the Apostle John have to get re-baptized after getting re-saved? We know that the Apostle Paul had a serious battle with sin from *Romans 7:4-25*. Does that mean that Paul lost his salvation each time he sinned? If so, how many times did Paul lose his salvation. Did Paul get re-baptized every time he was re-saved? What a impossible scenario! That is where false prophets and false doctrine take you and leave you: in a ball of confusion.

So, pray tell, what exactly does *1 John 3:9* mean?!? Admittedly, it is a difficult passage. If we take

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it quite literally, in its immediate context, then no one has ever been, or ever will be, born of God because all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God. That cannot be. Furthermore, as John has said, if we say we have no sin then we are liars. I do not normally use commentaries because most of them are corrupt. In this case, I ran *1 John 3:9* through many of them. Without exception all of them wanted to add the word “HABITUAL” in front of sin to make it read “Whosoever is born of God doth not commit HABITUAL sin”. I reject that because it adds to the word of God. Here is what I believe about that passage. If you resort to nothing but a cursory reading of the passage, you will get an ulcer from the frustration caused by your continued lack of understanding. I did for a long time. It is imperative that we understand what the new birth does for a born again believer. When anyone is born again, they receive a new nature. If you are born again, that new nature is the “Spirit” of the Holy Ghost that forever dwells in you. That “Spirit” of the Holy Ghost is **“his seed that remaineth in”** you. Let us add a little more detail. In *1 John 3:9*, the words “Whosoever”, the word “him”, and the two words “he” are applied to the born again believer. The word “his” in the phrase **“his seed remaineth in”** is applied to the Spirit of God [the Holy Ghost]. If you are looking for the ultimate in assurance of salvation, there it is! Hallelujah! I believe *1 John 3:9* is the strongest verse in the New Testament that refutes any doctrine that says you can lose your salvation. It is quite possibly the strongest verse in the New Testament that proves Eternal Security

What we are talking about here is some of the “strong meat” and “deep things of God” that are “hard to be uttered” and “hard to be understood” because we Christians are “dull of hearing” because we will not “study to show ourselves approved unto God”. These things cannot be received and understood by the unsaved, “natural man”. Listen to what the Apostles Paul and Peter have to say in *1 Corinthians 2:9-14*, *Hebrews 5:8-14*, *2 Peter 3:15-16*, and *2 Timothy 2:15*:

⁹ But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. ¹⁰ But God hath revealed *them* unto us by his Spirit: **for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.** ¹¹ For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. ¹² Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. ¹³ Which things also we speak, not in the words which man’s wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. ¹⁴ **But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned.** *1 Corinthians 2:9-14*

⁸ Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; ⁹ And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him; ¹⁰ Called of God an high priest after the order of Melchisedec. ¹¹ Of whom we have many things to say, and hard to be uttered, **seeing ye are dull of hearing.** ¹² For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which *be* the first principles of the oracles of God; **and are become such as**

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have need of milk, and not of strong meat. ¹³ For every one that useth milk *is* unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. ¹⁴ But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, *even* those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil. *Hebrews 5:8–14*

¹⁵ And account *that* the longsuffering of our Lord *is* salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you;

As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as *they do* also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction. *2 Peter 3:15–16*

¹⁵ Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. *2 Timothy 2:15*

All four of the passages of Scripture that we have just quoted are directed to Christians. Why do so many Christians succumb to so much false doctrine? Why are they blown “about with every wind of doctrine”? It is because their senses have not been exercised by the word of God so that they can discern between both Godly doctrine and evil doctrine. The verses we have just read explain why Christians are so doctrinally shallow in the deeper things of God that are hard to be understood. That shallowness comes from an unwillingness to study and rightly divide the word of God. Your level of understanding of the word of God is directly proportional to how much of a workman you are in the word of God. Many Christians are unable to move on from the milk to the strong meat of the word of God because they have teachers and preachers that give them the pacifier of compromise. They are dull of hearing because their spiritual senses have not been sharpened by the two-edged sword of the uncompromising word Of God:

¹² For the word of God *is* quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and *is* a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. *Hebrews 4:12*

The word of God discerns our thoughts and intents. It should be our intent to meditate upon the word of God and dwell in its precepts. One of the biggest reasons our preachers and teachers cannot teach us the deeper things of the word of God is because of our yielding to our carnal sin nature. In admonishing the church at Corinth our Brother Paul had this to say:

And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, *even* as unto babes in Christ. ² I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able *to bear it*, neither yet now are ye able. ³ For ye are yet carnal: for whereas *there is* among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men? *1 Corinthians 3:1–3*

What Paul is saying, is that when we are struggling to receive the meat of the word of God, it is

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because we are walking as the natural man rather than the spiritual man. When we walk as the natural man we offend he who is our greatest teacher. The Apostle John said:

²⁶ But the Comforter, *which is* the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you. *John 14:26*

If we do not live holy lives, the sin that we yield to grieves the Holy Ghost that is in us, and that clogs up the pipe of communication that is between him and us so that we cannot be sanctified and cleansed “with the washing of water by the word” (*Ephesians 5:26*). In most Christians that water has slowed down to a drip.....drip.....drip.....drip.
For many, the water of the word has been turned off.

The Holy Ghost is our teacher of teachers. We must have a deep relationship to the word of God that is enlightened by the power of the Holy Ghost. We need to yield to him so that we can receive a greater understanding of the word of God. If we rightly divide the word of God because we are in full fellowship with the Holy Ghost, we will have the power of God in us and radiating from us! Bless the Lord, O my soul: And all that is within me, bless his holy name!

So, why have I put so much emphasis on the word of God in these closing comments of our series on Eternal Security? It is because once the word of God has made you wise unto salvation, it is also able to make you wise unto Eternal Security. So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. Faith and repentance are the foundation of Eternal Security. Thank you for joining us in this series. It has been a blessing and a joy to preach and teach it.