

Eternal Life: Once Saved, Always Saved!

By: David A. Sargent

We are a tripartite nature: a Body, Soul & Spirit. That is, you have a body and a spirit, and you are the SOUL. Your whole person however is redeemed to God, but not all saved from the same thing, nor are they all saved at the same time. You also have a life that is saved, a time that is saved, a work that is saved, and many other things to which the term “saved”, “save”, “salvation”, etc. is applied. Not to be confused with the salvation of just the soul from hell fire and damnation.

1. If our salvation is not secure, how could Jesus say about those to whom He gives eternal life, “...and they shall **never perish...**”? John 10:27-28, “My sheep hear my voice, and **I know them**, and they follow me: And **I give unto them eternal life**; and **they shall never perish**, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.” The teach or believe that if even one man or woman receives eternal life and then forfeits it through sin or apostasy, will they not perish? And by doing so, do they not make Jesus words a lie?
2. Romans 13:11, “And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is **our salvation nearer than when we believed.**” Doesn’t this teach that salvation is a future thing? Yes the salvation of the body is. And notice that in the context of Romans 13:11 it lists sins of the flesh, but never says anything about anyone losing salvation. Romans 8:18-23, “For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope, Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now. 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.” This salvation is the redemption of the BODY. Not the SOUL. It is FUTURE. 1 John 3:1-2, “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. Beloved, 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.”
3. What about enduring to the end? Matthew 10:22, “And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but **he that endureth to the end shall be saved.**” And Matthew 24:13, “But he that shall **endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.**” Mark 13:13, “And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that shall **endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.**” In every passage here what is “**the end**” a reference to? Most people do not know. What is this

word “saved” meaning: **saved from what?** Remember **a text without a context is a pretext**. In the first place these are told by Jesus: Matthew 10:6-7, “But go rather to the **lost sheep of the house of Israel**. And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand.” And Matthew 10:23, “But when they persecute you in this city, flee ye into another: for verily I say unto you, Ye shall not have gone over **the cities of Israel, till the Son of man be come**.” So this context is placed at the Second Coming of Christ and what is happening at that time is the great tribulation. So the END is a reference to this time. NOT the Church age. Again in Matthew 24:14-15, “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**. 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:)” again this is a reference to a time period known as Jacob’s Trouble. Notice this context: “... **When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation**, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place...” This is the Great Tribulation: Matthew 24:21, “For then shall be **great tribulation**, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.”

4. If you or I have any part in maintaining our salvation, it will be difficult to live with much assurance. 1 John 5:11-13, “And **this is the record**, that God hath given to us **eternal life**, and **this life is in his Son**. He that **hath the Son hath life**; and he that **hath not the Son of God hath not life**. 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.”
5. To disregard eternal security is to take away from what happened at the Cross. 1 Corinthians 15:1-4, “Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you **the gospel** which I preached unto you, which also **ye have received**, and wherein ye stand; **By which also ye are saved**, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. For I delivered unto you first of all **that which I also received**, how that **Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures**; And that **he was buried**, and that **he rose again the third day according to the scriptures**.” Other versions add the word “being” in front of the word saved perverting the meaning.
6. Is salvation a past and fixed thing? 2 Timothy 1:7-10, “For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of **God; Who hath saved us**, and called us with an holy calling, **not according to our works**, but **according to his own purpose and grace**, which was given us **in Christ Jesus** before the world began, But is **now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ**, who hath **abolished death**, and hath brought **life** and **immortality** to light **through the gospel**.” with: Titus 3:5-7, “**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; **Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour**; That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.”
7. If Christ came to seek and to save that which was lost, and yet we can somehow become unsaved – and therefore undo what Christ came to do would not that be like reversing Christ’s sacrifice? Hebrews 10:10-12, “By the which will **we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all**. And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins: **But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down** on the right hand of God;”
8. **Why should God let you into heaven?** If your answer includes words such as “try, my best, church, believe in God, Sunday school, teach, or give” chances are that you still haven’t come to grips with the simple truth that salvation is by faith ALONE! **What are you trusting in to get you into heaven?** Is it Christ plus something? **Or** can you say with confidence that your hope

and your trust is in Christ and Christ ALONE? Romans 3:24-28, “Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare **his righteousness for the remission of sins** that are past, through **the forbearance of God**; To declare, I say, at this time **his righteousness**: that **he might be just**, and **the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus**. Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? of works? Nay: but **by the law of faith**. **Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law.**”

9. If you have placed your trust in Christ’s death on the cross as the payment for your sin, you are an eternal member of the family of God. **Acting** like God’s child **didn’t get you in** and **not acting like God’s child won’t get you tossed out**. God’s unconditional love is eternal. Salvation is forever. Romans 8:34-39, “Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us. **Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?** shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For **I am persuaded**, that **neither** death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, **nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.**”
10. What is the significance of a seal that can be continually removed and reapplied? What does it really seal? Ephesians 1:12-14, “That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ. 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**, Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.” And Ephesians 4:30, “And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, **whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.**”
11. Does it make any sense to say that salvation is offered as a complete and eternal solution for our sin and then to turn around and teach that salvation can be taken away because of our sin as well? NO: Hebrews 5:9, “And being made perfect, he became **the author of eternal salvation** unto all them that obey him;” Obey the Gospel, or NOT: 2 Thessalonians 1:8, “In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that **obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:**” and 1 Peter 4:17, “For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that **obey not the gospel of God?**” Obeying the Gospel has nothing to do with obeying the Ten Commandments. The Gospel is: 1 Corinthians 15:3-4, “For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that **Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:**” Notice that what he received is the Gospel: 1 Corinthians 15:1. “Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you **the gospel** which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand;”

Every Head Bowed and Every Eye Closed:

Why should God let you into heaven? _____.

If you are a Christian finish this verse: Philippians 1:21a “For to me to live is _____...”