

The Prayer of Christ for Believers, Part 2: The Purpose of Security in Christ— John 17:11-26

John 17:11–19 (NKJV)

¹¹ Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as *We are*.

¹² While I was with them in the world, I kept them in Your name. Those whom You gave Me I have kept; and none of them is lost except the son of perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled.

¹³ But now I come to You, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves.

¹⁴ I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.

¹⁵ I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one.

¹⁶ They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.

¹⁷ Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.

¹⁸ As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world.

¹⁹ And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth.

Introduction

In 1644, representatives of 7 churches gathered to summarize their common confession of faith, and to distinguish themselves from the Anabaptists and the Arminians. It was a time of turmoil, since the Reformation doctrines had swept across England. This was one of the first of several non-Anglican groups in that century to put pen to paper and confess their faith.

Around that same time another group was called together in 1643 by Long Parliament

The place was Westminster Abbey, that famous London church. The room inside the Abbey was called the Jerusalem Room. There was a gathering of the best theological minds and the greatest biblical scholars in England.

The Puritans were the dominating force there, the well-known lovers of Scripture, lovers of God, lovers of Christ, lovers of truth. And these Puritans

gathered together, about a hundred of them, with lords and commoners together, and they embarked upon a five-year endeavor: five years of intense study of Scripture, five years of intense dialogue, five years of intense scholastic effort, five years of discussion, five years to produce a statement of doctrine. Five years later, in the year 1649, they completed their task. And what they produced, along with a number of important works, was known as the “Westminster Confession of Faith.”

Well-known Puritans like Thomas Goodwin, James Usher, Jay Lightfoot, Samuel Rutherford, Jeremiah Burroughs, and the chairman of this group, a man named Twisse labored for these five years to produce what has become the most important Christian creed called the Westminster Confession of Faith.

And then in 1658, the Congregationalists would follow suit with the “Savoy Declaration”. Among the theological heavy weights in this production was John Owen.

That original group of 7 churches that worked in 1644 on the 1st London Baptist Confession were the Particular Baptists. Amid threats of persecution, and to show their solidarity and theological agreement in many ways with the Presbyterians and Congregationalists that had since written their own

confessions, a larger crop of Baptists would draft the 1677 Baptist Confession with great reliance on the WCF and Savoy, however, this confession would be put forth by a General Assembly of Particular Baptists ultimately in 1689, giving it the name that it is known by today: “The 1689 London Baptist Confession of Faith”, often called the *Second London Baptist Confession of Faith*.

The Solidarity of these confessions, gave great weight and authority to the doctrines they believe and proclaimed.

On the Topic of Eternal Security or Better, The Perseverance of the Saints
2nd London Baptist Confession of Faith States,

Chapter 17: Of The Perseverance of the Saints

1. Those whom God hath accepted in the beloved, effectually called and sanctified by his Spirit, and given the precious faith of his elect unto, can neither totally nor finally fall from the state of grace, but shall certainly persevere therein to the end, and be eternally saved, seeing the gifts and callings of God are without repentance, whence he still begets and nourisheth in them faith, repentance, love, joy,

hope, and all the graces of the Spirit unto immortality; and though many storms and floods arise and beat against them, yet they shall never be able to take them off that foundation and rock which by faith they are fastened upon; notwithstanding, through unbelief and the temptations of Satan, the sensible sight of the light and love of God may for a time be clouded and obscured from them, yet he is still the same, and they shall be sure to be kept by the power of God unto salvation, where they shall enjoy their purchased possession, they being engraven upon the palm of his hands, and their names having been written in the book of life from all eternity. (John 10:28, 29; Philippians 1:6; 2 Timothy 2:19; 1 John 2:19; Psalms 89:31, 32; 1 Corinthians 11:32; Malachi 3:6)

2._____ This perseverance of the saints depends not upon their own free will, but upon the immutability of the decree of election, flowing from the free and unchangeable love of God the Father, upon the efficacy of the merit and intercession of Jesus Christ and union with him, the oath of God, the abiding of his Spirit, and the

seed of God within them, and the nature of the covenant of grace; from all which ariseth also the certainty and infallibility thereof.

(Romans 8:30 Romans 9:11, 16; Romans 5:9, 10; John 14:19; Hebrews 6:17, 18; 1 John 3:9; Jeremiah 32:40)

3._____ And though they may, through the temptation of Satan and of the world, the prevalency of corruption remaining in them, and the neglect of means of their preservation, fall into grievous sins, and for a time continue therein, whereby they incur God's displeasure and grieve his Holy Spirit, come to have their graces and comforts impaired, have their hearts hardened, and their consciences wounded, hurt and scandalize others, and bring temporal judgments upon themselves, yet shall they renew their repentance and be preserved through faith in Christ Jesus to the end.

(Matthew 26:70, 72, 74; Isaiah 64:5, 9; Ephesians 4:30; Psalms 51:10, 12; Psalms 32:3, 4; 2 Samuel 12:14; Luke 22:32, 61, 62)

I. They, whom God has accepted in His Beloved, effectually called, and sanctified by His Spirit, can neither totally nor finally fall away from the state of grace, but shall certainly persevere therein to the end, and be eternally saved.³³³

II. This perseverance of the saints depends not upon their own free will, but upon the immutability of the decree of election, flowing from the free and unchangeable love of God the Father;³³⁴ upon the efficacy of the merit and intercession of Jesus Christ,³³⁵ the abiding of the Spirit, and of the seed of God within them,³³⁶ and the nature of the covenant of grace:³³⁷ from all which arises also the certainty and infallibility thereof.³³⁸

III. Nevertheless, they may, through the temptations of Satan and of the world, the prevalency of corruption remaining in them, and the neglect of the means of their preservation, fall into grievous sins;³³⁹ and, for a time, continue therein:³⁴⁰ whereby they incur God's displeasure,³⁴¹ and grieve His Holy Spirit,³⁴² come to be deprived of some measure of their graces and comforts,³⁴³ have their hearts hardened,³⁴⁴ and their consciences wounded;³⁴⁵ hurt and scandalize others,³⁴⁶ and bring temporal judgments upon themselves.³⁴⁷

But there are some who do not affirm this truth, who say that we are not secure, That we can finally and fully fall away from the faith and stop believing and be lost again, after having been genuinely saved from our sin, Justified by faith, fully propitiated by the Death of Christ, forgiven of all our sin, yet somehow, through the freewill of man undo the counsels of God from all eternity.

But what if it is true that we are not secure, that we can walk away, stop believing and finally be damned after having been genuinely saved.

4 points I would say regarding this.

If we are not preserved, then

1. It makes the purpose of God a mere wish

Romans 8:28–30 (NKJV)

²⁸ And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to *His* purpose. ²⁹ For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to be* conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. ³⁰ Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

2. It makes the plan of God a mortal wreck

John 6:37–40 (NKJV)

³⁷ All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out. ³⁸ For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. ³⁹ This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day. ⁴⁰ And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and

believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day.”

John 6:44 (NKJV)

⁴⁴ No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day.

3. It makes the Promise of God a Malicious Myth

Titus 1:1–2 (NKJV)

1 Paul, a bondservant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God’s elect and the acknowledgment of the truth which accords with godliness, **2** in hope of eternal life which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began,

Hebrews 6:17–19 (NKJV)

¹⁷ Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed *it* by an oath, ¹⁸ that by two immutable things, in which it *is* impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before *us*.

¹⁹ This *hope* we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the *Presence* behind the veil,

4. It makes the Prayers of Christ a meaningless work

John 17:11 (NKJV)

¹¹ Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as *We are*.

John 17:15 (NKJV)

¹⁵ I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one.

John 17:17 (NKJV)

¹⁷ Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.

John 17:24 (NKJV)

²⁴ “Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.

Hebrews 7:25 (NKJV)

²⁵ Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

1 John 2:1 (NKJV)

2 My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

- 1. It makes the Purpose of God a Mere Wish**
- 2. It makes the plan of God a Mortal Wreck**
- 3. It makes the Promise of God a Malicious Myth**
- 4. It makes the Prayers of Christ a Meaningless Work**

Review

1.The Person of Security

11 Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. **Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me,** that they may be one as We are.

12 While I was with them in the world, **I kept them in Your name. Those whom You gave Me I have kept;** **and none of them is lost** except the son of perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled.

1.The Person of Security

2. The Problem for Security

A. The World

11 Now I am no longer in the world, but _____
these are in the world,

B. The Sin

12 While I was with them in the world, I kept them in Your name. Those whom You gave Me I have kept; and none of them is lost except the son of perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled.

C. The Devil

15 I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one

1.The Person of Security

2. The Problem for Security

3. The Purpose of Security

The purpose for Security, of being kept by the Father, is given in a series of hina clauses. (purpose clauses in the Greek NT)

Because we are being left in a very insecure place, that threatens our faith on a regular basis, the prayer of Christ on our behalf is essential for the preservation of His own and the Perseverance of the saints.

The Purpose of our Security in God

1. That the Name of God will be Glorified

11 Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. **Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as We are.**

12 While I was with them in the world, **I kept them in Your name. Those whom You gave Me I have kept;** and none of them is lost except the son of perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled.

John 17:6 (NKJV)

6 “I have manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me out of the world. They were

Yours, You gave them to Me, and they have kept
Your word.

Earlier we have pointed out that the one who keeps us is The Father which is consistent with His Name. A Holy, Just and Faithful Father.

through Your name

I kept them in Your name.

They are kept in regards to your name, who God is.
His Holiness, Justice, Righteousness, Faithfulness.
Goodness, Graciousness, Compassion. Mercy

The basic petition could be understood in two ways. Literally translated, it reads ‘keep them in your name’ (*tērēson autous en tō onomati sou*). If the phrase *en tō onomati sou* (‘in your name’) is taken to have instrumental force (*i.e.* ‘by your name’), modifying *tērēson* (‘keep’), the petition means ‘protect them by your name’ or, more periphrastically as in niv, *protect them by the power of your name* (so, *e.g.*, Schlatter, p. 321; Bultmann, p. 503; Bruce, p. 332). In favour of this reading is the instrumental power of God’s name in some Old Testament passages: ‘Save me, O God,

by your name; vindicate me by your might' (Ps. 54:1). The parallelism shows that God's name may stand not only for the manifestation of God's character, but also for his might (*cf.* also Ps. 20:1; Pr. 18:10). Alternatively, the phrase *en tō onomati sou* ('in your name') may be taken to have locative force ('in your name'), modifying *autous* ('them'). The passage must then be rendered 'keep them in your name', *i.e.* 'keep them in loyalty to you' or 'keep them in full adherence to your character' (so, *e.g.*, Lagrange, p. 445; Lindars, p. 524; Schnackenburg, 3. 180).
 Carson, D. A. (1991). *The Gospel according to John* (p. 562). Leicester, England; Grand Rapids, MI: Inter-Varsity Press; W.B. Eerdmans.

Instrumental

Psalm 54:1 (NKJV)

¹ Save me, O God, by Your name,
 And vindicate me by Your strength.

Locative

Psalm 124:8 (NKJV)

⁸ Our help *is* in the name of the Lord,
 Who made heaven and earth.

It may not be a either/or but rather a both/and
 We are secure by the Name (Power) of God
 and we secure in the name, Character of God

Anytime the name of God is invoked, the ultimate reason is for His Glory. All is done in and by His name for His name.

This security is no less than for the Glory of God.

John 17:1 (NKJV)

17 Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: **“Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You,**

John 17:4 (NKJV)

4 I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do.

John 17:10 (NKJV)

10 And all Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine, and I am glorified in them.

Romans 11:36 (NKJV)

36 For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen.

Psalm 115:1 (NKJV)

1 Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us,
But to Your name give glory,
Because of Your mercy,
Because of Your truth.

1 Timothy 1:16–17 (NKJV)

¹⁶ However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life. ¹⁷ Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, *be* honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

2 Timothy 4:17–18 (NKJV)

¹⁷ But the Lord stood with me and strengthened me, so that the message might be preached fully through me, and *that* all the Gentiles might hear. Also I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion. ¹⁸ And the Lord will deliver me from every evil work and preserve *me* for His heavenly kingdom. To Him *be* glory forever and ever. Amen!

Philippians 1:6–11 (NKJV)

⁶ being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete *it* until the day of Jesus Christ;⁹ And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment, ¹⁰ that you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere

and without offense till the day of Christ, ¹¹ being filled with the fruits of righteousness which *are* by Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

Hebrews 13:20–21 (NKJV)

²⁰ Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, ²¹ make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom *be* glory forever and ever. Amen.

1 Peter 5:10–11 (NKJV)

¹⁰ But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle *you*. ¹¹ To Him *be* the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Jude 24–25 (NKJV)

²⁴ Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling,
And to present *you* faultless

Before the presence of His glory with exceeding
joy,
²⁵ To God our Savior,
Who alone is wise,
Be glory and majesty,
Dominion and power,
Both now and forever.
Amen.

2. That the Scripture would be fulfilled

12 While I was with them in the world, *I kept them in Your name. Those whom You gave Me I have kept; and none of them is lost* except the son of perdition, **that the Scripture might be fulfilled.**

While it is clear that the scripture is fulfilled with the loss of the son of perdition, because there are a number of scriptures that foretold his defection and betrayal

Jesus is saying that He has kept all the ones that were given to him.

But in order to explain the betrayal of Judas and the defection of Judas, He says the only one that left is the one by nature was a son of destruction or ruin.

NOT a believer.

This was part of the plan.

John 6:70–71 (NKJV)

⁷⁰ Jesus answered them, “Did I not choose you, the twelve, and one of you is a devil?” ⁷¹ He spoke of Judas Iscariot, *the son* of Simon, for it was he who would betray Him, being one of the twelve.

John 13:18 (NKJV)

¹⁸ “I do not speak concerning all of you. I know whom I have chosen; but that the Scripture may be fulfilled, ‘*He who eats bread with Me has lifted up his heel against Me.*’

Psalms 41:9 (NKJV)

⁹ Even my own familiar friend in whom I trusted,
Who ate my bread,
Has lifted up *his* heel against me.

Acts 1:16–17 (NKJV)

¹⁶ “Men *and* brethren, this Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke before by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus; ¹⁷ for he was numbered with us and obtained a part in this ministry.”

Matthew 26:24 (NKJV)

²⁴ The Son of Man indeed goes just as it is written of Him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been good for that man if he had not been born.”

But that is not all that is being referenced here, and in fact, I would argue that it is not the primary point, but rather that the Scripture is being fulfilled in the keeping of the ones that have been given to the Son by the Father.

John 18:8–9 (NKJV)

⁸ Jesus answered, “I have told you that I am *He*. Therefore, if you seek Me, let these go their way,”
⁹ that the saying might be fulfilled which He spoke, “Of those whom You gave Me I have lost none.”

Ecclesiastes 3:14 (NKJV)

¹⁴ I know that whatever God does,
 It shall be forever.
 Nothing can be added to it,
 And nothing taken from it.
 God does *it*, that men should fear before Him.

Numbers 23:19 (NKJV)

¹⁹ “God *is* not a man, that He should lie,
Nor a son of man, that He should repent.
Has He said, and will He not do?
Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?

Psalm 103:17–18 (NKJV)

¹⁷ But the mercy of the Lord *is* from everlasting to
everlasting

On those who fear Him,
And His righteousness to children’s children,

¹⁸ To such as keep His covenant,
And to those who remember His commandments
to do them.

Lamentations 3:22–23 (NKJV)

²² *Through* the Lord’s mercies we are not consumed,
Because His compassions fail not.

²³ *They are* new every morning;
Great *is* Your faithfulness.

Psalm 105:7–10 (NKJV)

⁷ He *is* the Lord our God;
His judgments *are* in all the earth.

⁸ He remembers His covenant forever,

The word *which* He commanded, for a thousand generations,

- ⁹ *The covenant* which He made with Abraham,
And His oath to Isaac,
¹⁰ And confirmed it to Jacob for a statute,
To Israel *as an everlasting covenant*,

Romans 11:26–29 (NKJV)

²⁶ And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written:

*“The Deliverer will come out of Zion,
And He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob;*

²⁷ *For this is My covenant with them,
When I take away their sins.”*

²⁸ Concerning the gospel they are enemies for your sake, but concerning the election they are beloved for the sake of the fathers. ²⁹ For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.

Luke 21:33 (NKJV)

³³ **Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.**

Matthew 5:18 (NKJV)

¹⁸ For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled.

3. That Joy would be Full

John 17:13 (NKJV)

¹³ But now I come to You, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves.

The prayer was spoken aloud, so that the apostles might overhear His intercessions for them, and hearing might rejoice

Bernard, J. H. (1929). *A critical and exegetical commentary on the Gospel according to St. John*. (A. H. McNeile, Ed.) (p. 572). New York: C. Scribner' Sons.

The Savior would not only have His people safe in eternity, but He desires them to be happy here and now: He would have them enter into His joy. It was for this reason He had uttered this Prayer while He was here upon earth. How this reveals the affections of our great High Priest! He might have offered this Prayer in silence to the Father, so that we had known nothing of its gracious and comforting details. But that would not have satisfied the heart of the

Lord Jesus. He spoke audibly so that the apostles might hear Him, and He has caused it to be written down too, so that we also might know of His deep interest in us

Pink, A. W. (1923–1945). *Exposition of the Gospel of John* (p. 940). Swengel, PA: Bible Truth Depot.

fulfilled Perf. Pass Part.

pléroó: to make full, to complete

Original Word: πληρόω

Part of Speech: Verb

Transliteration: pléroó

Phonetic Spelling: (play-ro'-o)

Definition: to make full, to complete

Usage: I fill, fulfill, complete.

Cognate: 4137 plēróō (from plērēs, "be full," see 4130 /plēthō) – properly, fill to individual capacity, i.e. to the extent it is "meet" (appropriate). See 4130 (plēthō).

John 15:11 (NKJV)

¹¹ “These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and *that* your joy may be full.

John 16:24 (NKJV)

²⁴ Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.

1 John 1:3–4 (NKJV)

³ that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship *is* with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. ⁴ And these things we write to you that your joy may be full.

The reality is that their Joy was dependent on there full understanding and appreciation for what Jesus knew he had done and what He was sure the Father would do.....Keep them Secure.

No matter how messy it got in the world.

No matter how many times the devil assaulted them

No matter the presence of sin.

They could have true joy in know knowing that.

Philippians 1:6 (NKJV)

⁶ ... that He who has begun a good work in you will complete *it* until the day of Jesus Christ;

1 Peter 1:5–6 (NKJV)

⁵ who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

⁶ In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials,

Romans 8:28–30 (NKJV)

²⁸ And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to *His* purpose. ²⁹ For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to be* conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. ³⁰ Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

Romans 8:34–39 (NKJV)

³⁴ Who *is* he who condemns? *It is* Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? *Shall* tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶ As it is written:

*“For Your sake we are killed all day long;
We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.”*

³⁷ Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

John 10:28–29 (NKJV)

²⁸ And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. ²⁹ My Father, who has given *them* to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch *them* out of My Father's hand.

4. That the Devil would be Defeated

¹⁵ I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one

The devil desire you. He desire to have you and destroy you. If he was allowed by God, he would

take as many as he could to hell, which would be all men who have ever lived.

He is allowed under the Rule of God to Seek out believers, to cause them to stumble, to tempt them with sin. But he is not allowed to fully destroy any believer. He has a fenced in area that he must remain in.

Could you imagine a world where there was equal power between God and the Devil and there was not assurance that you would ever truly and surely be saved. A life where one moment you are eternally saved, and then the next you are eternally lost.

The Bible teaches that the devil does have power, but he does not have all power.

The Bible teaches that the devil seeks out whom he may destroy, but it does not teach that he can destroy completely in hell.

The Bible teaches that the devil may be given permission to afflict us and tempt us but he is not given permission to take our souls.

Jesus intercession is a means of grace, that prohibits the devil from accomplishing his evil desires

John 17:15 (NKJV)

¹⁵ I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one.

2 Thessalonians 3:3 (NKJV)

³ But the Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard *you* from the evil one.

Psalms 121:3–7 (NKJV)

³ He will not allow your foot to be moved;
He who keeps you will not slumber.

⁴ Behold, He who keeps Israel
Shall neither slumber nor sleep.

⁵ The Lord *is* your keeper;
The Lord *is* your shade at your right hand.

⁶ The sun shall not strike you by day,
Nor the moon by night.

⁷ The Lord shall preserve you from all evil;
He shall preserve your soul.

But also, add to this the accomplishment of the Cross

1 John 3:8 (NKJV)

⁸ He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.

Colossians 2:15 (NKJV)

¹⁵ Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.

Hebrews 2:14 (NKJV)

¹⁴ Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,

1 Peter 1:4–9 (NKJV)

⁴ to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, ⁵ who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

⁶ In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷ that the genuineness of your faith, *being* much more precious than gold that perishes, though

it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, ⁸ whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see *Him*, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, ⁹ receiving the end of your faith—the salvation of *your* souls.