

## THE ETERNAL SECURITY OF THE BELIEVER PART 2

In this series on the Eternal Security Of The Believer, the question we are looking to answer from the Word of God is this:

Can a child of God ever lose his salvation? Well we saw last time in the first part of this series that according to Scripture a child of God can never be lost:

*Because God's Power Keeps Him Saved!*

*Because "Everlasting Life" and "Eternal Life" Have No End!*

*Because Salvation Is By Grace Through Faith, Not By The Law Or By Works!*

*Because Our Redemption Is An Eternal Redemption!*

### V. A CHILD OF GOD CAN NEVER BE LOST BECAUSE JESUS IS OUR SUBSTITUTE! (2 Corinthians 5:21)

There is much that we can never explain about the death of the Lord Jesus Christ, but this much we do know: **He died for us!** That is, **He died in our place and in our stead!**

**It is CHRIST'S RIGHTEOUSNESS (not human righteousness or human merit) that is the basis of the believer's acceptance and standing with God!**

**Our self-righteousness** did not save us in the first place, and **it is not the basis upon which salvation is continued!**

*Isaiah 64:6 "But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away."*

According to the Scripture that we are looking at here in 2 Cor. 5:21, God counted Christ as a sinner and punished Him on the cross of Calvary, and He counts us as righteous!

**Christ's righteousness brought us our salvation!** So the real issue is **not the endurance of human righteousness, but the eternal nature of Christ's righteousness!**

A believer cannot lose his righteousness or righteous legal standing before God because **Christ's righteousness is eternal!**

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### **Romans 4:5; 5:17-19**

*1 Corinthians 1:30 "But of him [i.e. of God] are ye in Christ Jesus, who from God is made to us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:"*

*Ephesians 1:6-7 "To the praise of the glory of his grace, in which **he hath made us accepted in the beloved:** 7 In whom we have **redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;**"*

*Colossians 2:10 "And ye are complete in him, who is the head of all principality and power:"*

### VI. A CHILD OF GOD CAN NEVER BE LOST BECAUSE OF THE PRINCIPLE OF THE NEW BIRTH. (John 1:12-13)

We are born of God! Born into His family!

Is there any way in the world that a person could be "unborn"?

*2 Peter 1:4 says that we are "partakers of the divine nature."*

### VII. A CHILD OF GOD CAN NEVER BE LOST BECAUSE THERE IS AN UNBROKEN CHAIN IN GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION! (Romans 8:28-30)

The Word of God reveals to us that God has a set plan by which he saves a man and brings him to final glory.

Now we know that **verse 28** does not mean that every little thing that happens to us as believers:

- 1) will make us feel better now,
- 2) or make us happier now,
- 3) or will work out for our good right now.

But it does mean that everything that happens to a child of God, **happens for his ultimate good** in God's plan of finally bringing such a person into full conformity to the image of the Son of God.

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If we could lose our salvation, how could that work out for our good? And, just how is it that God is so sure that everything that happens to us in this world will work out for our ultimate good? Quite simply, it is because **God has a plan whereby it will be accomplished!**

**What is this plan? It consists of six parts:**

**A. Foreknowledge.** (Means “to know beforehand.”)  
*Jeremiah 1:5–“Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.”*

**God’s plan is first that He foreknows the person ahead of time.**

Here is an awesome thought: **God knew in advance each and every thing about us, and yet He chose to love us!**

Speaking of his choice of Israel as His own peculiar people:  
*Romans 11:2–“God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew...”*

**God knows events before they occur and the character and choices of men before they are born!** That is what makes the Word of God so special with its prophetic accuracy!

**Prophecy is fulfilled with such minute accuracy because God knew everything about everything—even before anything was!**

Even everything that happened in the physical life of Jesus Christ on earth was foreknown by God—right down to his betrayal, arrest, trial, mistreatment, and ultimate crucifixion!

*Acts 2:23 – “Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain.”*

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**B. Election.** (Means “selection or selecting”)  
*1 Peter 1:2–“Elect according to the foreknowledge of God...”*  
Election is the sovereign and eternal choice of persons!

**All those divinely chosen cannot perish, for they were chosen IN CHRIST before sin entered and before the course of human responsibility began!**

Don’t misunderstand, **this does not mean that man has no choice in the matter!**

**God elected those for salvation who would trust Christ! He knew beforehand who they would be!**

Jesus said in *John 6:64–“But 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.”*

God’s will is that all come to salvation, but all will not come!  
**1 Timothy 2:4-6; 4:10**

*2 Peter 3:9–“The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to usward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.”*

The fact that not all will come to salvation, God knew beforehand!

*John 12:32–“And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me.”*

Christ is drawing all men unto Himself, but not all will come to a saving knowledge of Him!

We know that eternal life is the gift of God through Christ Jesus. (Romans 6:23) But, did you know that even the faith to believe (i.e. the ability to believe) the Gospel is the gift of God?

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*Ephesians 2:8-9—“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.”*

*John 6:65—“And he said, Therefore said I unto you, that no man can come unto me, **except it were given unto him of my Father.**”*

**God knew beforehand though who would exercise the gift of faith and who would not!**

*Foreknowledge, Election*

C. **Predestination.** (Means “to limit in advance, predetermine.”)  
**It is a fact that God planned man’s salvation before creation. (Ephesians 1:5, 11)**

**This does not mean that God arbitrarily chose who will be saved and who will not be!** We’ve already seen that God has revealed that **He wants all men to be saved!**

Again, God knows the future and knows who will receive His offer of salvation! Predestination is based on God’s foreknowledge and has more to do with what the Christian is predestinated TO than WHO is predestinated.

**Here in our text, predestination has to do with us being conformed to the image of Christ! (Vs 29)**

To live forever in our present condition would not be good for us! What kind of life would that be?

God predestinates each child of God to be conformed to the image of Christ; that is, he determines ahead of time that this person shall ultimately reach glory with Christ!  
**(2 Corinthians 3:18; 1 John 3:1-3)**

Can you see how that guarantees your eternal security!?

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So, God FOREKNEW us, ELECTED those of us who are in Christ, He PREDESTINED us to be conformed to the image of Christ, then,:

#### D. **Calling.**

In order to accomplish this, God calls this person to salvation. None of us could be saved if God had not called us!

*Romans 3:11—“There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God.”*

Left to ourselves, we all would be hopelessly lost!

Aren’t you glad that the Holy Spirit of God called you to salvation that day?

#### E. **Justification.**

(*Justification* means “to render or regard as just or innocent.”)  
God makes a person “**just**” by counting the perfect righteousness of the Lord Jesus Christ to his credit.  
(That is called “*Imputed Righteousness*”!)

This happened *historically* at the cross.

This happens *practically* when we trust in and believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, accepting or receiving Him as our personal Lord and Saviour.

*Romans 3:24—“Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.”*

#### F. **Glorification.**

(*Glorification* means “to render or esteem glorious.”)  
This refers to the ultimate and absolute physical, mental, and spiritual perfections of all believers.

As I have pointed out many times—our salvation is threefold:

- 1) Past Aspect – Salvation – Saved From Sin’s Penalty!
- 2) Present Aspect – Sanctification – Saved From Sin’s Power!
- 3) Future Aspect – Glorification – Saved From Sin’s Presence!

But we need to keep in mind that this is one complete chain that is unbroken which is God’s plan of working from “eternity past” to “eternity future” to make sure that a person is ultimately perfected and finally gets to Heaven at last!

**Romans 8:31-39**

**Vs 31**– Nothing could stand against such a person who has God on his side...who has God working in his favor to cause all things to work out for his final good!

**Vs 32**– Would God have paid the price of our salvation if he knew beforehand He would not or could not keep us?

**Vs 33**– Who can accuse the Child of God? Who can say he ought to go to Hell? God doesn’t even count or look upon the sins of those who have been called into salvation!

**(Cf. Hebrews 12:5-11)**

**Vs 34**– Who is in a position to condemn those who Christ has redeemed?

**Vs 35-39**– Who or what is powerful enough to separate you from the love of Christ? No one and no thing!

Foreknowledge  
Election  
Predestination  
Calling  
Justification  
Glorification

Let me assure you that NOTHING prevents your salvation today except stubborn unbelief! And if you are saved, NOTHING will prevent your ultimate glorification in heaven with Christ! Your eternal security is absolutely assured!

**Conclusion**

A child of God can never be lost, because of God’s purpose and plan for those who He saves!

The question is, are you a child of God?