

Perseverance of the Saints

Sermon 9 in the Doctrines of Grace Series

Philippians 1:6 -- 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;

I. The Doctrine Defined

See Chapter 17 LBCF – page 679 in our hymn book

II. Wrong Views that Oppose this Doctrine

A. Falling from Grace (Losing your Salvation)

B. Apostasy (Covenant Faithfulness)

C. Decisionism

Lorraine Boettner in the “The Reformed Doctrine of Predestination” says:

“The doctrines of Election and Efficacious Grace logically imply the certain salvation of those who receive these blessings. If God has chosen men absolutely and unconditionally to eternal life, and if His Spirit effectually applies to them the benefits of redemption, the inescapable conclusion is that these persons shall be saved.”

D. What should we think of those teachers who say one can fall from grace, or refuse to say whether or not this is possible for a Christian?

1. They are unsafe guides
2. It shows an obvious defect in their view of the work of the Holy Spirit.

2 Cor. 13:14 – Ian Hamilton from John Owen

To the Father – we should think of His love to us

To the Lord Jesus Christ – we should think of His grace to us

To the Holy Spirit – we should think of His indwelling of us

John 14:25 - chapter 16 -- The New Covenant work of the Holy Spirit.

1. Brings to mind and teaches the words of Christ
2. He glorifies Christ
3. He pours out the Love of God into our hearts Romans 5:5
4. He witnesses to believers that we are the children of God Romans 8:16
5. He is the Seal of our faith Ephesians 1:13-14
6. He assures the believer of God’s love and acceptance – Romans 8:16-17
7. Anoints the believer 1 John 2:27
8. He is the Spirit of Supplication Romans 8:26

III. Scriptural proofs for the Perseverance of the Saints

John 6:39-40 -- 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 10:26-30 -- But you do not believe, because you are not of My sheep, as I said to you.^[a]
²⁷ My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. 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. ³⁰ I and My Father are one.”

John 17:11-12 -- 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,^[a] that they may be one as *We are*. ¹² While I was with them in the world,^[b] I kept them in Your name. Those whom You gave Me I have kept;^[c] and none of them is lost except the son of perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled.

Romans 8:28-30 -- And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are 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.

1 Thess. 5:23-24 -- Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴ He who calls you *is* faithful, who also will do *it*.

2 Timothy 2:11-13 -- ¹¹ *This is* a faithful saying:
For if we died with *Him*, We shall also live with *Him*.

¹² If we endure, We shall also reign with *Him*.

If we deny *Him*, He also will deny us.

¹³ If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself.

2 Timothy 4:18 -- 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!

1 Peter 1:3-5 -- Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 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.

Jude 1, 24-25 -- Jude, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, To those who are called, sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ:

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.

See also: Rom. 8:35-39; 2 Cor. 4:14, 17; Eph. 1:5, 13-14; Heb. 9:12, 15; 1 John 5:4, 11-20