Let's Talk About: Salvation Security

Are you saved?

How do you know? How can you be sure that you are saved?

In the last block of classes, you learned about what it means to be saved and how one can become saved. 1 John 5:13 tells us: **I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life.**

This, along with many other verses that you have read, assure us that by believing in the name of Jesus one is saved. However, many have debated whether the assurance of salvation is permanent. In other words, once a person commits himself to Jesus, can he or she ever lose the promise of salvation?

Once Saved, Always Saved?

To be honest, this has been something that has been debated for a long time. Do you believe that a person can lose his or her salvation?

You can be sure that you will come across some who believe salvation can be lost. That a person is able to walk away from Jesus and become "lost" again. This would seem logical, as many people commit to Jesus and then start following their own way or even false religions. It would seem logical that these people did lose their salvation.

What do you think about that? Can a person turn away from God and be lost after committing to Christ?

While this seems logical, it defies the teachings of the Bible. Let's begin with one of the most important passages related to salvation. Read Ephesians 2:8-9. What does this tell us about how one becomes saved?

The truth is that the individual cannot earn his or her salvation. This is completely the work of God. In fact, verse 8 tells us that you were saved through "faith." Many scholars are explaining today that the faith involved in salvation is not the faith that one has in God, but the faith that God has in His own abilities and commitment. It is God's faith that one is saved, and not the faith of the individual. If that was true, do you have anything to do with your salvation?

Chosen by the Father

Read John 10:28-29. Who does Jesus say led the person to God?

Jesus made it clear that the Father choses the person, leading him or her to Jesus. Jesus then explained in verse 29 that no man can pluck that person out of the Father's hand. Do you think you have the ability to remove yourself from the grasp of God?

This is what one must believe if a person can lose his or her salvation. It must be believed that God can and will let go. Does God let go of people He has called?

© 2026 Dr. Robert Pannier, Hope CDA, All Rights Reserved

A Love That Never Quits

Read Romans 8:38-39. What does this tell us about the love of God?

How do you think the love of God relates to the assurance of salvation?

This is a good question to ask yourself. Paul makes it clear that nothing can remove us from the love of God. If God loves you so much that He chose you, do you believe that He would stop loving you and let you get away, regardless of your actions?

One of the interesting things that Paul explains is that nothing "present" nor anything "to come" can separate you from the love of God. This makes it clear that nothing you do in the future could separate you from God's love. That also includes you opting to walk away from God. Would you agree with that statement? Why or why not?

Sealed by the Holy Spirit

Read Ephesians 1:13-14. How did God "seal" us in our salvation?

The Bible tells us that we are sealed with the promise of the Holy Spirit. 1 Corinthians 3:16 explains that each one of us is the temple of the Holy Spirit. In other words, God's Spirit lives inside each one of us. This is how we are sealed with the promise of our salvation. It is that the Holy Spirit lives in each one of us.

To believe that one can lose his or her salvation, it must be believed that the Holy Spirit leaves His temple, you. Do any verses claim that you can lose the Holy Spirit?

You can't name any. There are none. Assurance of salvation is something that the Bible makes clear. Once you are in the Father's hand, you can't get away.

Do you think your salvation is eternal?

Live Like You Are Saved

Many will wonder if they cannot lose their salvation, then why not do whatever one wants. If salvation is secure, then we are "free" to sin as much as we want.

Many think this way, however, read 1 Peter 2:16. How does the disciple tell us that we should live?

This is how you should live your life, as one who is free, but who lives for Jesus and His ways anyway. In fact, Peter tells us we should live as "servants of God." What do you think it means to be a servant for God?

If you believe in God's eternal salvation for you, how can you live like that?

You also want people to see the assurance of salvation in you. What will others think salvation is if you are living an extremely sinful life?

Your Memory Verse: 1 Peter 2:16 – **16 Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God.**

© 2026 Dr. Robert Pannier, Hope CDA, All Rights Reserved