

The background of the entire page is a photograph of a sunset or sunrise. The sky transitions from a deep blue at the top to a bright orange and red at the bottom. A single, bright white circle is positioned in the center of the sky, resembling a full moon or a bright star.

Eternal Security Is A Bible Doctrine

by
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ETERNAL SECURITY IS A BIBLE DOCTRINE

Please open your Bibles to I John chapter five and verse twenty-four. I am going to teach on the subject of eternal security. Did you know that a vast majority of professing Christians do not believe in the doctrine of eternal security? Probably everyone in this room believes what I am going to teach. You have no problem with it yourself. Yet you might not be able to explain it to someone who really has a problem with it.

Preacher! My co-worker had a friend who was a Christian and who committed suicide, and she wanted me to ask you something. Would she go to heaven even though she committed suicide?

Preacher! I know someone who got saved and really lived for the Lord and then got into sin. Did he lose his salvation?

Preacher! What about a Christian who lives for the Lord a long time and then later on drops out of church and goes back into sin? Did he lose his salvation?

Many Christians who believe in eternal security have a hard time when it comes to taking the Word of God and saying, "This is what compels me to believe in the subject."

Eternal security is the teaching that once a person has been genuinely saved, not just morally reformed, not just turning over a new leaf, but genuinely saved, in possession of salvation, then that salvation is not subject to being revoked, it is not subject to being canceled.

In other words, once a person is saved, he is always saved. He stays saved forever and ever and ever.

The opposite teaching is sometimes called Arminianism. The Arminians would teach that you can be saved, but by rebellion or continual sinning you can lose or forfeit the salvation that you once had. They would say salvation is not a permanent position but it is only secure. It may be obtained by grace through faith but Christian works maintain it.

Listen folks! That is the opposite position of eternal security. So let me ask you something? Why do you believe in eternal security?

We are going to notice two things: Number one, the Bible teaches eternal security; and then number two, the Gospel is a blessed story.

Please notice, number one: the Bible teaches eternal security. Eternal security is a Bible doctrine. It is not a doctrine tucked away in the corner of the Bible. The Bible teaches eternal security. It is taught by key Scripture passages in the Word of God. In John 5:24, the Bible says, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He

that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life."

Question! When does he have everlasting life? When he believes, at that very moment he comes into possession of something that Jesus called "everlasting life." The very moment you believe, in that very moment you become the possessor of something Jesus calls "everlasting life." It does not say, he that believes and never has a doubt and never has a problem and keeps on believing and keeps on believing, and after 45 years he dies and if he is still believing he will go to heaven. That's not what it says! What is the Bible saying? It is simply saying this! The very moment you believe you receive something God calls "everlasting life."

In John 6:37, the Bible says, "All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out." We often use this verse in witnessing. Somebody says, "I don't know if I can be saved." If you will come to Jesus, you can be saved because "all that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out."

What was Jesus saying? He was simply saying this. When He receives you, from that point forward He will never ever under any circumstance whatsoever cast you out.

That simply means this. Once you have been taken in, you are in. It says him that cometh, that cometh to me, I will in no wise cast out. That's rather secure, don't you think?

In John 10:27-30, the Bible says, "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. My father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. I and my Father are one."

What is Jesus saying? He is saying this! They are in my hand; they are in my Father's hand; no man can pluck them out of my hand. Jesus said nobody could do it and you are one of those nobodies.

In John 14:16, the Bible says, "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever." How long? For ever! In other words, once the Holy Spirit of God takes up His abode in your body, He has promised to abide there for ever. That is why I believe that even in eternity I will be indwelt by the Spirit of God. That is a permanent relationship that I have with God. Eternally I shall be indwelt with the Holy Spirit of God.

Don't you see? When a person is truly saved he is given the Holy Spirit of God to abide with him for ever. The only way that a saved man could go to hell is that the Holy Spirit of God go with him because God says that He would abide with you for ever. When the Holy Spirit of God takes up His abode in the body of the

believer, it is a permanent situation. Don't let anybody put words into Jesus' mouth. You simply take Him at His word.

In John 17:11, the Bible says, "And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are." Jesus is praying the high priestly prayer. He is talking about these believers. So let me ask you something. Has Jesus ever prayed a prayer that God the Father has refused to answer? No! So if Jesus said, "Lord, all those that believe, keep them through thine own name," is God the Father going to answer that prayer? Absolutely yes!

So if you have ever been a believer in Christ, Christ has prayed that you will be kept by His own power that one day you may be with Christ; and God the Father is going to answer that prayer. Don't you see that?

In Romans 8:28-30, the Bible says, "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified."

God foreknows these men and these women and these children who are going to be saved. God knows in advance. Foreknowledge of God brings it to pass. If you ever were saved, the only reason you were saved is because you have been called. And the only reason you were called is because you were predestinated. And the only reason you were predestinated is because you were foreknown.

The controversy is, how come I got foreknown. I believe you got foreknown by the grace of God. You did not desire to be foreknown. You did not desire to be predestinated. You did not desire to be called. You did not desire to be justified. You did not desire to be glorified. Don't you see that? The whole thing rests on God's grace.

The point I want to make is this: not how you got foreknown; but if you ever got foreknown, you are guaranteed to be glorified. You are not going to wind up in heaven and God look at you and say, I did not know you were going to get here. God is not going to look around heaven and say, I knew there was somebody else who is supposed to be here and I cannot find him or her.

There is not a single person ever going to get to heaven that God did not justify, that God did not call, that God did not predestinate, and that God did not foreknow.

You might argue about how He foreknew them, but that is not the point I am making now. The fact is, He foreknew them. And if He ever foreknew you, you are going to be glorified. It's that simple!

You say, Preacher! What if I rebel? Too bad, you're on your way to heaven. By the way, that is why the sovereignty of God is not a frightening subject. It is a calm reality. If you have ever been foreknown, and if you have ever been justified, and you have been called, the only reason you could have been called is that you have been predestinated.

You cannot see the salvation of others in the classic sense of the word so you had better be careful about saying who lost it and who got it.

In II Corinthians 1:21-22, the Bible says, "Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God; Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts."

In Ephesians 1:13-14, the Bible says, "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."

In Ephesians 4:30, the Bible says, "And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption." Do you know why God sealed you and me unto redemption? He foreknew that, if our works were not good enough to save us, our works were not good enough to keep us.

Salvation is by the grace of God. Do you know what Grace is? Grace is the unmerited favor of God. Salvation is something God does for the believing sinner, and there is absolutely nothing in that believing sinner that commends him unto the grace of God. Absolutely nothing! We all deserve to go to Hell! However, God in His grace has chosen to save those that believe in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Listen to the Bible! In Romans 3:24, it says, "Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus." In Ephesians 2:5, the Bible says, "Evan when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, by grace ye are saved."

If the whole world was damned to hell, if the whole world was under the curse of an awful death and judgment, and if God backed off, the whole world would have gone to hell.

You have the idea that folks are begging God to save them and He does not want to save them. That's foolish! If God's Holy Spirit backed off, not a single man would ever make one move toward God. In Romans 3:10-11, the Bible says, "As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God."

The whole race was doomed and damned to hell; but God, in His grace, has chosen to save all those that believe.

And He gives us the seal of the Spirit. In II Timothy 1:12, the Bible says, "...I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day."

In Hebrews 7:23-25, the Bible says, "And they truly were many priests, because they were not suffered to continue by reason of death: But this man, because he continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood. Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them." Where it says "God will save them to the uttermost," that phrase literally means "all the way to the end." If you get saved, you get a salvation that guarantees that you will keep on being saved until the very end. God saves you. All those that come unto God by Him, He saves them all the way to the end. That is how secure your salvation is.

You are kept by the power of God. In I Peter 1:3-5, the Bible says, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time."

We have noticed, number one: that the Bible teaches eternal security. But notice, number two: the Gospel is a blessed story.

God is righteous and the Gospel is a blessed story. It is a blessed truth.

Here is how God deals with the sin problem. In I John 2:1-2, the Bible says, "My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world."

That word propitiation is a good Bible term. Do you know what the word means? It basically means "satisfied." That means that Jesus' death on the cross satisfied God's demand for your punishment.

In Ephesians 2:1, the Bible says, "And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins."

What is the Bible saying? It is simply saying this! You are without hope. You are without God. You are dead in trespasses and sins.

There is nothing in your power to save you. Nothing! God looks upon man in his lost condition and says, man cannot do anything to save himself so I will transfer all of man's sin guilt to my Son who does have the ability to pay a sin debt. I will transfer all of man's sins to Jesus Christ. In II Corinthians 5:21, the Bible says, "For he [God] hath made him [Jesus Christ] to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him." God transfers all

your sin to Christ, and then God pours out His entire wrath upon Christ in full measure.

So let me ask you something! How could one man suffer an infinite penalty for all of humanity? How could that be? Because that Man is also God. And Jesus Christ bore your sin and did what only God could do. He paid the infinite price. And God says, My holy nature is satisfied, My justice that cries "sin be punished" is satisfied. I am satisfied. I don't have to judge anybody else. Believe on My Son; and if you will accept what He has done, I can forgive you without ever one time compromising My holiness. That's a beautiful truth. How could anyone ever imply that his good works have anything to do with that? In Ephesians 2:8-9, the Bible says, "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." In Titus 3:5, the Bible says, "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us."

It is wicked to think that you could earn that, or once you got it could do something to keep it. That's utter blasphemy! In Jude 24, the Bible says, "Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy."

What is your salvation based on? Jesus Christ! Lord, if your Son by His merit alone does not get me to heaven, I have no chance to get there any other way. If I am not able to get there by the sole grace and mercy of God, I will never make it. My sin is too offensive. I don't have the money with which to pay the dreadful sin debt, but there was one who came some 2,000 years ago, one who said, I have the thing for which to pay your debt; and He paid it. I will take that. God says, fine, you got it!

There is something in man that says, that's too easy. That's pride! There is something in man that does not want to say that the greatest thing in life is my salvation and I am totally, absolutely, 100% dependent upon somebody else to secure it.

That's why we sing "Amazing Grace How Sweet the Sound."

In I Corinthians 15:10, the Apostle Paul said, "But by the grace of God I am what I am." That was from his heart because he knew that he was what he was because God in His grace stepped in and did something.

In Ephesians 2:1-3, the Bible says, "And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others." What an awful condition! Here is man plunging head long into hell. No interest in God.

No interest in salvation, just doing his own thing, plunging head long into hell. All of a sudden and out of nowhere steps God and stops the thing!

In Ephesians 2:4-5, the Bible says, "But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved)."

God is a God of great wrath. God is a God of dreadful justice. But aren't you glad He is rich in mercy, for His great love wherewith He loved us? I don't understand that. He did not just like us, He loved us. In John 3:16-17, the Bible says, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved."

God did not just love us. It was a great love. He was willing to give up His only begotten Son that through His death you could have eternal life by simply believing on Christ. In Acts 16:31, the Apostle Paul said, "...Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved..." In John 6:47, Jesus said, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life." In John 1:12, the Bible says, "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name."

Simply believe on Christ as the one who bore your sin, who died in your place, who was buried, and whom God resurrected from the dead.

In Romans 10:9-10, the Bible says, "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." In Romans 10:13, the Bible says, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Did you know you get to sit where He sits? In Ephesians 2:6-7, the Bible says, "And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus."

God saved you and me so that for ever and ever He could brag on Himself for saving us. In Ephesians 2:8-9, the Bible says, "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."

That's what you got. God said if you ever got that, you are sure for heaven as if you were already there. It's secure. Don't let anybody talk you out of that. Don't let anybody tell you that your behaviour is the basis for God's keeping you. If that were true, you might as well hang it up. You don't have what it takes to keep it. If you could not have earned it, you cannot keep it.

God simply said, I am going to give you something I will keep for you based on the righteousness of my Son. It is not a license to sin. When a man is saved, the work of God is done in his heart, and there are other graces that come to work in his life that keep him from sinning and living in sin and living the rebellious life.

Salvation is secure because God said it is secure. It's that simple!

You say, "Preacher! What must I do to be saved?" Simply admit that you are a sinner; and believe on Christ as your crucified, buried, and risen Saviour. You will receive forgiveness for all of your sins. You will receive His free gift of eternal life by faith. In I Corinthians 15:3-4, the Bible says, "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."

Jesus did a wonderful thing for you some 2,000 years ago on Calvary's cross. He died for you. He was buried for you. He rose again the third day for you, and nothing would thrill Him more than to save you today.

How is a Person Saved?

Salvation is all of God. God does the saving. Just take God at His Word and claim His salvation by faith. You will never be able to work your way into heaven. God does not have a scale in heaven whereby He weighs your good and bad works. That is a lie of the Devil – Romans 3:24; Acts 4:12; Ephesians 2:8-9; Titus 3:5; I Peter 1:18; Romans 5:8.

Salvation is as simple as believing on Christ as the one who bore your sin, who died in your place, who was buried, and whom God resurrected from the dead – John 1:12, 3:16, 6:47; Acts 16:31; II Corinthians 5:21; Romans 10:9-10; Romans 10:13.

Simply admit that you are a sinner and believe on Christ as your crucified, buried, and risen Saviour. You will receive forgiveness for all of your sins. You will receive His free gift of eternal life by faith – Romans 3:10, 23; I Corinthians 15:3-4.

Jesus did a wonderful thing for you some 2,000 years ago on Calvary's cross. He died for you. He was buried for you. He rose again the third day for you, and nothing would thrill Him more than to save you today.

Won't you go to Him right now in prayer and tell Him in your own words that you will trust Him as your Saviour? Or pray this simple prayer: Dear Lord, I know I am a sinner. I believe Jesus died for me and that He arose from the grave. Here and now I ask You to forgive me of my sin and save me. In Jesus's name. Amen.

If you prayed that simple prayer, I would like to hear from you. Please contact me by e-mail or phone (813) 760-4028.

Please visit our website for a complete list of sermons that are available.

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