

STUDY NUMBER 2 FOR NEW CHRISTIANS - Eternal Security

1 John 5:13

(Not entirely original with me)

Introduction: This study can be used for new Christians but can also be used as a "refresher" study for all Church members. Salvation is PERMANENT, it cannot be lost, nor can it be taken away. Christianity, among all the religions of the world is unique in its belief that one can KNOW his/her eternal destination. The only way one can know he/she is saved is if salvation cannot be lost. Otherwise one could never be sure whether he/she was really saved.

I. WHAT THE SCRIPTURES PROMISE

- John 3:16 - Everlasting life
- Romans 6:23 - Eternal life
 - How long is everlasting?
 - When does eternal end?
- Both everlasting and eternal are translated from the Greek word "aionios" meaning perpetual.
- By definition, everlasting life must last forever. If it lasts forever, then it can never end, it can never be lost. Otherwise, it is not eternal or everlasting.

II. WHAT JESUS PROMISED

- John 6:37 - That He would in no wise cast anyone out.
- John 6:39 - That He would lose none.
- John 10:28 - That one would NEVER perish and that no one can take one away from Him.
 - NEVER- comes from the Greek words - "ou me"
 - These are double negatives constituting a very strong DENIAL.
 - It could also be translated - "not at all, by no means, in no case, ever."
- Jesus meant that believers in Him would NEVER, EVER perish.

III. WHAT THE HOLY SPIRIT DOES

1. Ephesians 4:30 - He seals believers.
2. Ephesians 1:13 - The Holy Spirit, Himself, is the seal.
 - Five things a seal signifies:
 - Authenticity- Believers are genuinely God's children.
 - Authority - By God's authority, believers are His children.
 - Ownership - Believers have been bought with a price.
 - Finished transaction - Jesus paid for sins once for all.
 - Security - Salvation is secure and cannot be tampered with.
3. 2 Corinthians 1:22 - Jesus is the "earnest" of believers' salvation.
 - "Earnest" is from the Greek word - "arrabon."
 - It's meaning is: A pledge, part of the purchase, money or property given in advance as security for the rest, and forfeited if the purchase is not completed.
 - Salvation is secure because God, the Holy Spirit, is Himself, the guarantee of the salvation of all believers in Jesus Christ.

IV. WHAT GOD, THE FATHER, DOES

- 1 Peter 1:5 - Believers are kept by the power of God.
- The same power that created the universe!

CONCLUSION:

1. Salvation is paid for and freely given by God.
2. Salvation is secured eternally, by the power of God.
3. One cannot lose his/her salvation because he/she is not responsible for securing it (Galatians 3:1-3)
4. Those who teach/believe that salvation can be lost, ultimately add some component of human effort (works) to salvation.
 - Ephesians 2:8-9 unquestionably refutes this.
 - Romans 8:35-39 - NOTHING can separate the believer from the love of Jesus Christ.