

SAFE AND SECURE

John 10:27-30

Introduction: Sheep are weak, helpless, defenseless if they get lost, or if sick, threatened or attacked. Their only security is in their shepherd and if he is good, then they will survive and if careless, they will perish.

We, who are believers in Jesus are His "sheep." We are weak, helpless, defenseless and our security, our very lives rest in Him.

It is NOT possible for any true believer to perish because we are preserved by the Grace of God in Jesus Christ. We are as secure as those already in heaven because of:

I. A DIVINE DISTINCTION (v27)

- God does make a distinction between people: those who are in Jesus Christ and those who are not.
Those who are in Jesus Christ are so because of:
 1. A Distinct Invitation
 - "Whosoever believes whosoever calls upon the name..." etc.,
 - Jesus Christ knows those who have believed:
 - Who, where, what, how
 - What He will make of them, when He will bless them, how He will bring them home.
 2. A Distinct Purchase (vv11,15)
 - Jesus Christ voluntarily became a sacrifice for His sheep.
 - Jesus became a substitute for His sheep.
 - Jesus accomplished redemption for His sheep.
 3. A Distinct Call (v27)
 - Jesus Christ's call always brings His sheep to Him.
 - Jesus calls each by name.
 - Jesus leads His sheep out of darkness, bondage and death.
 - Have you heard His call?
 - Also, Jesus' sheep will not follow a stranger.

II. A DIVINE GIFT (v28)

1. Eternal life is a gift from God - a matter of free Grace.
 - Not by nature nor by evolution.
 - Nothing in one's heart or conduct causes God to give.
 - Nothing in the believer's heart or conduct can cause God to take away His gift of eternal life.
 - It is contrary to the nature and character of God to take away His gift which is so freely given.
 - The gift is in no way dependent upon circumstances of this present, mortal existence.
 - How can life be eternal if it comes to an end? If one has received from God the gift of eternal life, it is not possible for one by any act or upon any grounds to lose it or perish.

2. It is an eternal gift because it is a life in union with Jesus Christ.
 - Believers are joined to Jesus Christ. If Jesus Christ perishes, believers perish. If Jesus Christ lives, all believers shall live.
 - Believers are "married" to Jesus Christ and are members of Jesus Christ's body.

3. It is an eternal gift because the believer is preserved by the power and grace of God through the Holy Spirit.
 - The Holy Spirit is sent to call and preserve God's people. He gives and preserves life. His is God's "seal."
 - The Holy Spirit's indwelling is a mark of ownership and He keeps the believer legally secure and permanent and safe.

III. A DIVINE PROMISE (V28)

1. A blanket, unconditional promise. It takes into consideration all times, circumstances, events and probabilities.
 - What if a babe in Christ and his/her faith is weak? He/she shall never perish.
 - What if young in Christ and passions are strong? He/she shall never perish.
 - What if old and his/her vision grows dim? He/she shall never perish.
 - What if one is tempted, tried and all hell breaks loose against him/her and he/she falls into sin again and again, seven times seven times seventy? He/she shall never perish.
 - God's promise is for ALL of God's flock. *"...they shall never perish..."*
 - If you are a believer in Jesus Christ, then trust in the Lord Jesus Christ for you have received eternal life and you shall never perish.
 - Deny this promise of God and with that denial, you deny every promise of God. If one word from God cannot be believed, NO word of God can be believed.

2. Why Jesus Christ's sheep shall never perish:
 - The promise of God must be fulfilled (shall never perish).
 - The purpose of God cannot be frustrated or stopped.
 - It cannot be disannulled.
 - It cannot be over turned.
 - The redemptive work of Jesus Christ cannot be nullified.
 - Jesus paid all our debts, therefore we owe nothing.
 - Jesus bore all our punishment, therefore we have none to bear.
 - Jesus satisfied the offended justice of God for us, therefore there is nothing left for us to bear or to satisfy.
 - The believer's justification in Jesus Christ is an irreversable act.
 - The trial is over, the court of heaven has pronounced an irreversable verdict upon all believers - JUSTIFIED.
 - God will impute no sin to a believer.
 - God has put away the believer's sins forever.
 - God accepts all believers through His Son, Jesus Christ.
 - The believer's justification is free, full and forever.

- The work of God's grace can never be defeated.
 - God is willing to complete His work in us.
 - God is wise enough to complete His work in us.
 - God is strong enough to complete His work in us.
- The intercessory work of Jesus Christ must prevail.
- The seal of the Holy Spirit cannot be broken.

IV. A DIVINE SECURITY (v28)

1. The believer is preserved in the heart of God's love.
 - The believer is preserved in the hands of God's power. (The believer is always in the hands of Jesus Christ, what a place of security.
 - The hands that were pierced to redeem the believer.
 - The hands of omnipotent power.
 - The hands which hold the reins of universal domain.
 - The hands which hold us in life.
 - The hands of God, Himself.

CONCLUSION:

1. Such marvelous grace compels us to give our hearts to Christ in undivided love, praise and devotion.
 - Grace produces gratitude and gratitude produces devotion.
2. A divine distinction - "*My sheep*"
 - A divine gift - "*..I give unto them eternal life...*"
 - A divine promise - "*...they shall never perish...*"
 - A divine security - "*...neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand...*"
3. How can you know that this "GRACE" is for you?
4. It is for every self-confessed sinner who trusts in Jesus Christ alone as his/her Lord and Savior.
 - If I trust Him, it is for ME, if YOU trust Him, it is for YOU.
5. Have you believed? If so, then you shall never perish.