

WHEN SAVED, YOU ARE SAVED FOREVER!

John 10:27-29

Introduction: All around our world there are situations of rescues: floods, fires, avalanches, lost at sea. There are helicopters, hunting dogs, patrols, search parties, rescue boats, ropes, ladders and all sorts of equipment used to help rescue people from perilous situations. However, once rescued and safe, it is quite possible to get into another dire situation and need rescuing again. That is not so with our Lord. Once He has saved us, we are never in danger of needing to be saved again and anybody who says or teaches otherwise is wrong! Most often God's Word is misread or parts of it taken out and mixed in with a completely different subject. Let's give "needing to be saved again" some thought.

I. ONE CAN BE RELIGIOUS BUT STILL LOST

1. 2 Peter 2:20-22

2. This passage is about those who try to stop sinning on their own, "turn over a new leaf," keep the "golden rule," and start doing "religious" things.

- So, when were their sins ever forgiven?
- When did they ever call upon the Name of the Lord?
- When did they ever put their trust into the Lord Jesus?
- When were they ever indwelt by the Holy Spirit?
- When did they receive Salvation?
- When did they receive their New Nature?

3. Remember Judas Iscariot? He was very religious, but was still lost.

- He was religious like the others.
- He was around Jesus.
- But He was never transformed on the inside because he NEVER trusted Jesus.

4. One cannot be saved by reforming his/her own life and by being around those who have really been saved. Salvation doesn't "rub off" of one person onto another.

5. Salvation security does not cause one to take sin lightly. Oh no, contrary to what unbelievers think, true believers don't even want to sin and feel awful whenever they do.

- The saved have a new nature and that new nature is like Jesus.
- The saved are indwelt by the Holy Spirit, the presence of God.
- The saved JUST DON'T WANT TO SIN!

6. The unsaved religious people are still lost and have never been changed inside.

II. THE SAVED WILL ALWAYS COME BACK IF THEY GO ASTRAY

1. Matthew 24:11-13

2. We are not saved because we last or endure. We last and endure because we are saved. Endurance is one of the marks of a changed life.
 - Jesus prayed for Peter. Peter wandered, cursed, swore, doubted, but he lasted, endured and came back. He didn't fall away.
3. Judas never had the needed faith. He seemed as religious as the others and they never doubted that he wasn't one of them but he didn't last.
 - Those who leave and stay gone NEVER had salvation in the first place.
 - The saved ALWAYS come back to God sooner or later. God never loses one of His own.

III. THE SAVED BEAR FRUIT AND SOMETIMES THEY DON'T

1. **John 15:5-8**
2. Salvation is not the issue in this passage, it is bearing fruit, producing.
 - God says that every person's works will be judged by fire someday and only that which is done for Christ will last or endure.
 - Paul said that he didn't want to become a castaway, a good for nothing.
 - The saved have to stay close to Jesus or they are not going to bear much if any fruit.

IV. THERE ARE SOME WHO DELIBERATELY TURN AWAY FROM SALVATION

1. **Hebrews 6:4-9** (Misunderstood so often)
2. This passage does not teach that one can be lost again after being saved. If it were possible, then NOBODY could ever be saved, for everyone has sinned and continues to sin even after being saved. The only sinless person is a DEAD one.
3. Many come to the point of decision to believe but turn away. This is a deliberate NO!
 - King Agrippa told Paul he was "almost" persuaded but said NO!
 - Remember, many followed Jesus for a while, but then many went away after a while.
4. When it got around that Jesus was the promised Messiah, many believed but most did not. They deliberately rejected Jesus.
5. This passage is dealing with people who KNOW that salvation is in Jesus only but for whatever reason, refuse to believe and accept Him into their lives and be saved.

CONCLUSION:

1. IF you are saved, you can NEVER lose your salvation.
2. IF you have thought about it but said NO, then you are still lost and have never been saved.
3. There is no other way to be saved and have eternal life except through Jesus Christ.
4. Can you be saved whenever YOU want to? Only God knows that, but He did say, "Today, now is the time of salvation..."