

"The Salvation Which is in Christ Jesus"

(2 Timothy 2:10)

Lesson Eight: False Doctrines about Salvation – Once Saved, Always Saved (3)

Introduction. An extension of the false doctrine of salvation by faith alone is the erroneous view that once a person has been saved, it is impossible for him or her to be lost. Much of this comes from a flawed concept of faith and works that argues, if the gift of salvation is not granted on the condition of any works, then neither can it be lost on the condition of any works. We saw, however, in the previous lesson that works of obedience are a matter of duty, and do not merit salvation even though they are a necessary condition by which we accept the gift of salvation.

I. What it means to be "saved."

A. We noticed in the previous lesson that Scripture uses the term *faith* in different ways. Let's consider some ways that the Bible speaks of those who are "saved" and when this "salvation" is granted.
   1. Jesus promised, "He who believes and is baptized will be saved" (Mark 16:16). Read Acts 2:40-47. In the last verse how are those who were added to the disciples described? _____
   2. Read 1 Corinthians 15:1-2. In speaking of the salvation of the Corinthians circle the verb tense that Paul uses to describe it: past present future
   3. Read Ephesians 2:8-10. In speaking of the salvation of the Ephesians circle the verb tense that Paul uses to describe it: past present future
   4. From these two examples, is it accurate to speak of salvation as a present condition one enjoys in this life?_____

B. In Jesus' lesson on the Mount of Olives and when he sent out the twelve to teach He told them something about who will be saved. (Read: Matt. 10:21-22 and 24:9-13). Whom does Jesus say will be saved?_____
   1. Read 1 Peter 1:3-5. When does Peter say salvation will be revealed?
      _____
   2. Read 1 Peter 1:8-9. What is the end of faith? _____
   3. Read 1 Peter 1:13. When will grace be brought? _____
   4. Read Hebrews 9:27-28. Why will Christ "appear" a second time?
      _____

C. These passages show that while salvation can be described as a present condition, it is ultimately something that will be fully realized at the judgment. We may see this from the very texts that speak of it in this way.
    1. In 1 Corinthians 15:1-2 under what condition does Paul teach that the Corinthians "are saved"?_____
    2. In Ephesians 2:8-10 in what has God prepared for Christians to walk?
    _____

II. Passages That Refute Once Saved Always Saved.

A. We have seen that salvation is a present state, but it is conditioned upon holding fast to faith and obedience to Christ. Many passages make this clear.
    1. We have considered in previous lessons the example of Simon the sorcerer. (Read: Acts 8:20-24) Was Simon "once saved, always saved"? Why or why not? _____
    _____

B. Read: 2 Pet. 2:20-22. What is said about the condition of these people before learning the truth? _____
    1. How could it be better not to have known the way of truth? _____
    _____
    2. How can the "latter" condition be worse? _____
    _____

C. Read 2 John 9. What is the condition of one who does not abide in the doctrine of Christ?_____
_____
    1. Can such a person be considered saved?_____

D. Read John 15:5-8. What does Jesus teach His disciples must do toward Him and His words? _____
    1. If a branch does not abide in Christ what does He promise will happen?
    _____
    2. Since braches represent disciples, are these branches saved? _____

E. Read Hebrew 10:23-27. What does the writer urge them to "hold fast"? _____
_____
    1. For the one who willfully sins, what no longer remains?_____
    _____
    2. What can they expect? _____

F. Read Jude 5. How does Jude describe those whom God delivered from Egypt?
_____
    1. What does he say God did to them because of their unbelief? _____
    2. What does this teach about those who have been saved in Christ and then turn to unbelief?_____
    _____

Conclusion. The Bible makes it clear that a man or women who has obeyed the gospel can turn from the truth and stand once again outside of a saved relationship with Christ. In our next lesson we will consider an offshoot of this false doctrine—the false doctrine of continuous cleansing apart from repentance, prayer, or faithfulness to God's word.