



Once Saved Always Saved? Part 1

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A very popular doctrine in the religious world today states that once a person has been saved, then they cannot be lost, regardless of what they do. Let us briefly consider what the Bible has to say on this matter. Remember, it does not matter what man says, believes or teaches. It only matters what God has said in His Word.

In Matthew 11:28-30, Jesus said, “Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest...” From this statement, we learn that man is a free moral agent and has free will, to either accept or reject Jesus’ invitation. God has never forced anyone to obey Him. Salvation comes through obedience to the gospel (Romans 1:16; Hebrews 5:8-9). If it is the case that we have the freedom to accept or reject that salvation, then is it the case that once we have accepted salvation, we loose our free will? Of course not. We have the freedom to accept salvation; however, we also have the freedom to give that salvation up if we choose to do so.

How about such passages as John 10:29, which reads, “My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand.” This passage teaches us of the security we have by being a child of God. If we choose to remain in that relationship, then no one, not even Satan, can take us by force from the protective hand of God! This passage does not teach the impossibility of being lost. It does not teach that we cannot choose to walk away from God if we desire.

There are numerous passages in the New Testament that warn against the danger of falling from the grace of God. Please consider the following: I Corinthians 10:12, 9:27; Galatians 5:4; Hebrews 2:1, 3:12; James 5:19-20; II Peter 2:1, 20-22; Revelation 2:1-5.

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