



## Once Saved Always Saved? Part 3

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Let us continue our examination from God's Word concerning the subject of whether a person that has been saved can so sin as to fall from the grace of God. Thus far, we have listed several passages that gave warning of the dangers of falling from grace. In our last article, we noted an example from the New Testament who was once saved, yet fell from the grace of God. Let us now notice another example.

In Acts 8, as Philip preached the gospel to those in the city of Samaria, some believed and were baptized (verse 12). In verse 13, "Then Simon himself believed also: and when he was baptized, he continued with Philip, and wondered, beholding the miracles and signs which were done." This man Simon, one who at one time deceived the people with "sorcery," or magic tricks (Acts 8:9-11), obeyed the gospel and was saved; however, he sinned. When he saw the ability the apostles had to bestow spiritual gifts by the laying on of hands, he desired to have the same ability. Notice what Peter told him: Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter: **for thy heart is not right in the sight of God. Repent therefore of this thy wickedness**, and pray God, if perhaps **the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee**. For I perceive that thou art in the gall of bitterness, and in the bond of iniquity. Then answered Simon, and said, Pray ye to the Lord for me, that none of these things which ye have spoken come upon me (Acts 8:21-24 – emphasis added).

Here is a clear case of a man, who had been saved, is now in a lost condition because he sinned again. It is true that this Christian, or any Christian, can obtain forgiveness from sins they commit after becoming a Christian, if they will repent of them. If this man would have died without repenting of this sin, could he or would he still be saved? How? John, writing to Christians, wrote, "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

