

Can I Lose My Salvation?

Most Christians spend some amount of time wrestling with the security of their salvation. The struggle comes not from a failure on God's part but an over-emphasis of personal sinfulness. We are commanded in scripture to examine ourselves ([2 Corinthians 13:5](#)), so there is nothing wrong with questioning one's salvation. However, if we find evidence of spiritual life within us, we should not remain doubtful. Rather, we must cast afresh our trust upon the One who saves us.

In the following texts, we will look at:

1. God's Sovereignty in Salvation
2. Christ's Atonement
3. Results of Christ's Atonement
4. The Marks of True Believers
5. Practical Methodology for Answering "Can I lose my salvation?"

God's Sovereignty in Salvation

- [John 6:44](#)
"No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day."

The Father draws the unbeliever to Christ, and Christ raises him/her on the last day. We are the ones being acted upon – we are not the ones initiating the actions.

- [John 1:12-13](#)
"But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God."

True believers are born of God. No one can become unborn.

- [1 Peter 1:3-5](#)
"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time."

God says He caused us to be born again to a living hope and to have an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and will not fade away. Notice that we are kept by the power of God.

- **Romans 8:29-30**
For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren; and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified.”

These verses teach that God actively orders our salvation. Consider this: If any link in this chain breaks, God has failed and we have no hope!

- **Ephesians 1:3-8; 2:8-10**
“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace which He lavished on us.”

...

“For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.”

Salvation is because of, through, initiated by, maintained, secured and executed by God through Christ. God gave salvation to us by grace and through faith, not of our own works so that and personal boasting is totally removed. In short, God says you have nothing to do with obtaining or securing your salvation.

Christ’s Atonement

- **2 Corinthians 5:21**
“He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”

“He” is God the Father, and “Him” is Christ. In the Great Exchange, God the Father made Christ become sin on our behalf that we might become the righteousness of Christ.

- **Colossians 1:13-14**
“For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.”

Consider what God the Father has done for the believer: He rescued us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the Kingdom of His beloved Son. Look at what Christ has done for us: He redeemed us and forgave us of all sin. What sin could cause you to be lost again since God, through Christ, has forgiven all your sins?

Results of Christ's Atonement

- [Titus 2:14](#)

“. . . who gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds.”

Christ redeemed us from every lawless act. All our sins have been forgiven in Christ, past, present, and future sins. If they have been forgiven already, they cannot be held against us.

- [Romans 8:1](#)

“Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.”

Because of Christ's life and sacrifice, God does not pass judgment against believers.

- [John 15:3](#)

“You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you.”

Sin makes a believer feel dirty, but this verse tells us we are already clean because of Christ, who is the word.

- [Romans 5:1,9](#)

(1) “Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ” . . . (9) “Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him.”

Because of Christ, we have been delivered from the wrath of God and are at constant peace with Him.

- [John 6:58](#)

“This is the bread which came down out of heaven; not as the fathers ate and died; he who eats this bread will live forever.”

We eat bread or food daily and yet we perish. Those who eat the Bread of Life, who is Christ, live forever.

- [Hebrews 6:4-6](#)

“For in the case of those who have once been enlightened and have tasted of the heavenly gift and have been made partakers of the Holy Spirit, and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, and then have fallen away, it is impossible to renew them again to repentance, since they again crucify to themselves the Son of God and put Him to open shame.”

These verses present a hypothetical argument. If you could be saved and then fall away, Jesus would need to die for you again, so you would “crucify to yourselves the Son of God afresh.” This is not possible since Jesus died once for all.

The Marks of True Believers

- [Matthew 7:21-23](#)

“Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter. Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.'”

Notice that Christ references two sets of people: (1) Those “who do the will of My Father” and (2) Those “who practice lawlessness”, including those who call Him “Lord, Lord”, prophesy, cast out demons, and perform many miracles.

- [John 10:27-30](#)

“My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand. My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. I and the Father are one.”

The ones to whom Christ gives eternal life (1) Hear His voice, (2) Follow Him, (3) Will never perish, and (4) Cannot be taken from the Son's hand. All of this is true because (1) The Father, who protects us, is greater than everyone and everything and (2) The Father and Christ are one.

- [1 John 2:3-6](#)

“By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments. The one who says, "I have come to know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him; but whoever keeps His word, in him the love of God has truly been perfected. By this we know that we are in Him: the one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked.”

True believers desire to be like Christ and, by the Holy Spirit, they work to conform themselves to the pattern of Christ.

Practical Methodology for answering “Can I lose my salvation?”

[2 Corinthians 13:5](#) commands us to examine ourselves. Some questions you may ask are:

- a. Have I confessed to God that I am a sinner?
- b. Have I repented of my sins for salvation?
- c. Have I trusted Christ to save me from God's wrath? Do I trust Him now?
- d. Do I desire to do the will of the Father to the best of my ability and knowledge?
- e. Do I wrestle against indwelling and external sins?
- f. Do I continue to repent of my sins when I fail to fulfill Christ's commands?

Please know God understands that we cannot do these things perfectly. Having said that, if your answers are “Yes!”, you have confidence that you are a believer. I encourage you to simply trust that God is faithful and that Christ is sufficient to eternally save you.

If your answer is “No.” or you are ambivalent about this issue, I urge you to [contact us](#) immediately.