

ETERNAL SECURITY

It is important to understand and know that your relationship with God is an eternal one. When you accepted Jesus Christ as your Savior, God gave you eternal life and the security of an eternal relationship with Him. Being saved means that you have eternal life, and having eternal life means that you are saved.

The key word of this lesson is:

SECURITY

The key question this lesson answers:

Is my new life in Christ going to last forever?

The key purpose of this lesson:

To know that the security of your relationship with God is based upon nothing other than the finished work of Jesus Christ.

The key point of this lesson:

Our birth is irreversible.

MEMORY VERSES:

*“All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.” – **John 6:37***

*“These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.”
– **1 John 5:13***

THE SCRIPTURES REVEAL THE GIFT OF ETERNAL LIFE

A. You received eternal life in Jesus Christ at the moment of your salvation.

John 3:15; 1 John 5:12

B. Jesus Christ paid the penalty of your sin through his sacrifice. You received the gift of eternal life through his resurrection.

Romans 6:9-11

C. God cannot lie, and he has promised you eternal life.

Titus 1:2

THE SCRIPTURES DECLARE YOUR ETERNAL SECURITY

A. The Bible says that you have eternal life because God will not disown you for any reason.

1. Jesus promised that he would never cast you out.

John 6:37

2. Jesus promised that you are secure in his hand, and no one can take your salvation from you.

John 10:27-29

3. You must choose to trust that your soul is safe in God's possession.

2 Timothy 1:12

B. The Bible says that you cannot forfeit your own salvation.

1. Eternal life is the free gift of God received at the moment of your salvation by God's grace and not your works. You cannot lose eternal life because you cannot earn eternal life.

Ephesians 2:8-9; Romans 6:23

2. If there was anything you could do to earn or keep your eternal life, then you would be righteous by your own efforts, and Jesus Christ would have died in vain.

Galatians 2:16, 21

3. If you were responsible for maintaining your salvation, then there is no doubt that you would lose it because of your sin. God alone secures your salvation.

Galatians 3:10; James 2:10

THE BIBLE DECLARES THAT NOTHING CAN SEPARATE YOU FROM GOD'S LOVE

Read *Romans 8:38-39*. The immense promise and security of God's love toward each individual believer is demonstrated in these verses. There is nothing that can ever separate you from the love of Christ, or the eternal security that you have in him.

- **Death** – you cannot lose it when you die
- **Life** – you cannot lose it while you live
- **Angels** – Angels cannot take it from you
- **Principalities** – government cannot take it from you
- **Powers** – Satanic powers cannot take it from you
- **Things present** – nothing right now can take it
- **Things to come** – nothing in the future can take it
- **Height** – nothing in the heavens can take it away
- **Depth** – nothing below you can take it away
- **Any other creature** – no living thing can take it

DISCUSSION:

It is important to note that the past is not listed here. Your sin separated you from God, but now you are His child. You are no longer separated from God because of something in your past. Are you allowing your past to affect your relationship with God?

“And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath even as others.”

– *Ephesians 2:1-3*

THE SCRIPTURES CONFIRM YOUR ETERNAL SECURITY

A. Your relationship with God is secure because you are now his child by birth.

John 1:12-13; 1 John 3:1-2

THE KEY POINT OF THIS LESSON!

Birth is irreversible. You will always be your biological father's child because you were born of his seed. Even if one or both of your parents were never a part of your life, it does not change the fact that you are their child. You could disown each other, change your name, or never see each other the rest of your lives; but your father will always be your father. The same is true of your heavenly Father. You can never be “unborn” because your spiritual birth is fixed forever.

B. Your new birth in Christ has been sealed with the Holy Spirit of God.

1. When you were born again, God made a record of it by writing your name in the Lamb's book of life.

"And I intreat thee also, true yokefellow, help those women which laboured with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and with other my fellowlabourers, whose names are in the book of life." – **Philippians 4:3**

2. You were sealed by the Holy Spirit of God at your spiritual birth.

"In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believe, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory."
– **Ephesians 1:13-14**

C. The scriptures confirm our faith even when our feelings do not.

Your salvation is not based on feelings, but on the truth of the word of God. Doubts and fears can be real, but they should always be addressed by taking them to the word of God.

1. You can know that you have eternal life.

"These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God." – **1 John 5:13**

2. God promised eternal life, and eternal life has no end.

"And this is the promise that he has promised us, even eternal life."
– **1 John 2:25**

3. God knows you are saved, but you should be convinced of your own salvation.

"For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things." – **1 John 3:20**

4. The love of God will overcome any fears you may have.

"There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love." – **1 John 4:18**

DISCUSSION:

Has there been a time in your life that you doubted your salvation?

How does knowing you have eternal security change the way you view your relationship with God?

SOME COMMON MISUNDERSTANDINGS ABOUT ETERNAL SECURITY

A. Do I have to work in order to keep my salvation secure?

No. Works are the opposite of grace. We are saved by grace alone, through faith alone, and in Christ alone. Faith justifies you before God, while your works justify you before men. We are to walk in Christ just as we received him – by faith.

Titus 3:5; Galatians 2:16; Colossians 2:6-7

B. Will I lose my salvation when I sin?

No. When we sin, we break fellowship with God, but he doesn't remove us from his family. We simply need to confess our sins to our Father, repent, and fellowship will be restored.

1 John 1:9; 2 Corinthians 7:1

C. Will believers lose their salvation if they choose to turn their backs on Jesus?

No. The gift of salvation is not conditional; it is eternal. God will not turn his back on his children. However, there are always consequences in choosing to live a life out of fellowship with God. God will discipline his children so that it will lead them to holiness.

Hebrews 12:6-11; Galatians 6:7-9

DISCUSSION:

Are you willing to believe and accept what the bible says about your eternal security?

What are some consequences you have faced because you chose to live a life outside of fellowship with God?

Do you have any questions about this lesson?

REVIEW AND DISCUSSION

1. What are the promises that we can claim in *John 6:37 and John 10:27-29*?

2. Explain in your own words what it means to be sealed by the Holy Spirit. Use scripture to support your answer.

3. Is there anything that can separate you from the love of God? Give scripture to support your answer.

4. Write down some scripture references that promise that you can know that you have eternal life right now?

5. Is it possible for you to do anything that will cause you to lose your salvation?

6. What is the key purpose of the lesson, and what has it taught you?

PERSONAL BIBLE STUDY

2 Timothy 2:15-19 speaks of a group of people that walked away from following the Lord. Why was their faith overthrown? What does the bible say about how God views their relationship with Him?

According to **1 Peter 1:3-5**, you have a living hope because you have been born again from the dead. What does this passage teach you about your heavenly inheritance? Whose power keeps your salvation secure?

Compare **Philippians 1:6**; **Jude 1:24-25**; and **2 Timothy 1:12** and describe the reasons why you can be confident in the security of your salvation.

The Bible teaches that you cannot lose your salvation. However, you can suffer loss by not serving the Lord. Please read and respond to the following verses and questions.

Psalm 51:12

Have you ever lost the joy of your salvation? Do you need to ask God to restore the joy of salvation back into your life right now? _____

2 Corinthians 6:1-3

It is possible to lose your testimony as a follower of Christ. Has there ever been a time since your salvation that God was not being glorified by the way that you were living? How is your testimony today? _____

1 Corinthians 3:11-15

There is an eternal reward to be given or lost based upon how you invest in eternal things or temporary things. Right now, are you living for and investing in things that will matter in eternity? _____
