

Eternal Security
(Lessons from SS in spring 2024)

And you ... He has reconciled... to present you holy and blameless in His sight, if indeed you continue in the faith.... Colossians 1:21-23

Question: Since the believer's salvation is secure, why the "if"?

There's a similar verse in Hebrews 3:14-15

1. We need to start with the nature of regeneration (new birth, second birth, born again).

John 3:3-10;

Nicodemus should have understood this because of the promise of the New Covenant. Ezek 36:25-27; Jer 31:31-34;

Notice what is promised in the New Covenant in Ezek 36.

New Testament explains how it relates to all believers: Matt 26:28; 1 Cor 11:25; 2 Cor 3:4-6; Heb 8:7-8; Heb 9:14-15

How the NT describes the second birth and the changes it brings.

John 1:12

1 Peter 1:3, 23

2 Cor 5:17-18

1 John 5:1-5

1 John 3:1-3, 7-9

2. Why are these changes necessary and how does it happen?

1 Cor 2:14 (How does this relate to what Jesus told Nicodemus in John 3:6-7?); Rom 8:7-8; Rom 3:10-11

The new birth takes place through the convincing, convicting, drawing, eye-opening, light producing power of the Spirit of God. 2 Cor 4:3-6; John 3:8

3. So given these changes when someone is born again, what keeps them saved?

John 10:3-5; 14-16; 25-30 (No one can pluck the sheep who God gave to Jesus out of either Jesus' or God's hand.)

Romans 8:28 ff

John 17:1-3; 6, 9, 12, 20, 24 (Jesus intercedes for His own. See also Hebrews 7:29)

Philippians 2:13

1 Peter 1:4-5

Romans 14:4

Phil 1:6

Ezek 36:27 (Part of God's covenant promise to us)

Romans 11:25

Titus 2:11-12

4. There is a kind of faith that does not save.

It's an acknowledgement, a belief of historic facts, a mental agreement. A person can hear and assent to something without really accepting it and making it their own.

Heb 4:2

John 8:31-47; 59

Really believing Jesus is who He says He is implies obedience, imitating, and following. That's what disciples do.

1 John 2:6

Luke 6:46

John 10:4, 27

John 6:60-69

Matthew 13:18-23

5. Where do we gain assurance?

2 Cor 13:5; 1 John 5:13. (Read all of 1 John)
(Don't depend on feelings!)

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