

Salvation and Eternal Security

Can I be saved from my sins? And if I do get saved, what happens if I sin again? Will I lose my salvation?" Have you ever had these questions, or similar ones on your mind? Did you know that it is possible for any person to know how to be saved, and then to have the assurance of that salvation and eternal security (eternal salvation)? That's right! You can know right now how to be saved for all eternity. Want to know? Good! Here's how.

The Bible says that we are all sinners by birth and in deed, and that we need to be saved. (Ro. 5:12) We stand in need of salvation. But there's just one problem - we cannot do anything to save ourselves. No one else can save us since they, like us, are sinners standing in need of salvation. (Ro. 3:10) They're in the same predicament as you and I! But salvation is possible and available because God provided a means whereby a sinner can be saved. How is this possible? Jesus Christ who is not only the Son of God, but is also God of very God, (Jn. 20:28) has paid our sin debt when He shed His blood and died on the Cross of Calvary. (Jn. 19:1-30) You see, Jesus Christ left heaven's glory and took to Himself a human body in order that He might be able to die on Calvary for sinful man. He remained God, but became the God-man. Even though Jesus Christ had taken on a human body, He was not a sinner, and He never committed any sins. He was in every sense a sinless person, and as such He was qualified to pay our sin debt.

(1 Pe. 2:21-24) Therefore, when He was crucified on the cross, our sin debt was laid to His account, even though He was not a sinner. When Jesus Christ shed His innocent blood and died, He in every sense paid in full the sin debt that we owed. (1 Jn. 2:2) He bodily rose from the grave three days later and, today, He is in Heaven (He. 10:14) interceding on our behalf. (Ro. 8:34; He. 7:25) When an individual comes to that place in his life where he recognizes the fact that he is a sinner on his way to a Christless eternity in a devil's hell, and he repents of his sins and asks for God's forgiveness, and for Jesus Christ to come into his heart and save him, then he is forgiven and saved. He is at that moment born-again - a spiritual rebirth. And, this salvation from God is eternal - it never ends - for any reason. Consider these verses from God's Word. Ro. 10:9,13; Jn. 6:37; 1 Jn. 5:11-13. These verses, as well as all other verses on salvation, when taken in their Biblical and theological concept and context, do not teach that a person can lose salvation or that a person must do, or avoid doing anything to remain saved. When God saves a person it is for eternity. Period!

*But what if you sin again, does it mean that you lose your salvation? The answer is **NO!*** The above verses prove that salvation is eternal, but you do not have a license to live anyway you want. (Ro. 6:1,2) As Christians, we have the responsibility to live in such a manner as to bring honor and glory to our Saviour. (Gal. 2:20) When we sin we disrupt the fellowship that we enjoy with our heavenly Father, but we retain our salvation. The moment we realize that we have sinned we need to confess it to God, and He will forgive it and our fellowship will be restored (1 John 1:9; 1 Jn. 2:1 in speaking to Christians). If you have never been saved, that is, received Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour, then you need to do it today - right now - before it becomes eternally too late. (2 Co. 6:2) Then seek out a good independent, fundamental, Bible believing and Bible preaching, Baptist church. Attend it regularly that you might be spiritually fed from God's Word to help you grow spiritually strong. If you have received Jesus Christ as Saviour, are you living for Him? Does your life show it?

-Richard A. Ciarrocca