A *Brief Commentary*

 *on*

***The Security of the Believer***

 *by*

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 **Introduction**

The purpose of this writing is to correct the misunderstanding of this precious truth.

To show how God in His great mercy and grace saves and preserves forever one who was a poor lost sinner, unable to do anything to escape a terrible judgement and eternal destruction

 **The Security of the Believer**

*Romans 8:35-39 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

The security of the believer is often called eternal security, for it shows our salvation to be secure for eternity.

The statement often heard is “Once saved always saved,” and although it is true, it is often an unqualified statement, made by those who do not understand all that is really involved when God saves a lost sinner. Most Baptists hold this truth, yet many Baptists that I know use this term so loosely that I seriously doubt they understand it’s implications at all.

As a result eternal security is often misunderstood, and rejected by many, especially those of Armenian persuasion.

Some people in making this statement are implying they need not be concerned about how they live their lives since they have attained their salvation. I seriously doubt the salvation of those who think that way, for they show no real **love of God**, and no **faithfulness to Him**. God promises that when He saves us He makes of us a new creature. So there should be evidence of that change.

*2Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.*

*Matthew 1:21: And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his Name JESUS: for he shall* *save* ***his*** *people* ***from*** *their sins.*

**Note:** He saves them **from** their sins, not in their sins.

Dr. Charles Spurgeon said: “Go not to God and ask for mercy with **sin** in your hand.”

Dr. Spurgeon also gave an example of a woman who, if she forsook her husband for another man, would she come back and ask forgiveness on the arm of her new lover?

**God convicts His own,** and **God chastises His own.** In fact Hebrews 12:8 tells us:

*“But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.*”

*2 Corinthians 5:17: Therefore if any man be in Christ,* ***he is a new creature:*** *old things are* *passed away;* ***behold,******all things*** *are become new.*

True Salvation is brought about entirely by God, each member of the Godhead, Father, Son and Holy Spirit having a part in giving life. We, before salvation were **dead** in sins completely helpless to do anything about our soul. In fact in our unsaved condition we had no desire to do so.

*John 5:21 For as the Father raiseth up the dead, and quickeneth them; even so the Son quickeneth whom he will*

*John 6:63 It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.*

*Ephesians 2:1 And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;*

The word “quickened” means **made alive.**  God The Holy Spirit, reveals to us our lost condition, our sinfulness, then gives to us repentance, (ability to repent). He then gives us new life by His precious **grace,** through the shed blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ who died to pay the penalty for our sin.

Salvation is a **supernatural** work, which produces **supernatural effects.**

*Ephesians 2:10: For we are his workmanship, created* ***in Christ Jesus*** *unto* ***good works****, which* ***God hath before ordained*** *that we should* ***walk in them.***

What I wish to point out here, is that there is a difference between a true **supernaturally born** **again Christian**, and one who **believes** he is born again because of the **convincing arguments of** **a well meaning or fast talking evangelist or other Christian worker.**

When God reveals to us our **sinfulness,** and brings us to true **repentance**, and reveals to us the **love** that He has placed on us, and the **suffering** that Christ did for us, and then gives us the ability to Trust in Him for all this, we through faith become a new person, belonging to Him. Our desires are changed, our lifestyle is changed, we are no longer in bondage to Satan and sin, and we love God.

Notice both the **faith** and **ability** to **repent** are given of God.

*Ephesians 2:8: For by grace are ye saved through* ***faith****; and* ***that not of yourselves****:* ***it*** *is the gift of God:*

*2 Timothy 2:24,25 And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves;* ***if God peradventure will give them******repentance*** *to the acknowledging of the truth;*

Now as a result of all this**:**

**We will persevere, and He will preserve us.** The statement has often been made by enemies of this truth that: “If it is absolutely certain that God will preserve his people from total apostasy, then there is no need to persevere.” That is like saying, if God knows our prayers, why pray? God gives us breath, why breathe? God admonished the seven Churches in the Book of Revelation, for their shortcomings, and then said, **“Hold fast ‘till I come.”**

But He never puts a burden on us that we cannot bear. He promises many times *“I will never* *leave thee nor forsake thee.”*

Our Lord promised that when He left, He would send The Holy Spirit as a Comforter.

*John 14:26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.*

*John 15:26 But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:*

God preserves His own in their new life by His indwelling Holy Spirit. We read:

 *Phillipians1:6 Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:*

*In 2 Peter 1:10 Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall* ***never*** *fall:*

*2 Timothy1:9: Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus* ***before the world began,***

Notice**:** Our names were written in the Lamb’s Book of Life **before** the world began***.***

We read in  *1Peter 2:24 Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.*

I understand by the tense of this verb in the Greek that it implies that when He bore our sins, He actually did this for **individual** persons, not just a blanket coverage for sin, but **actual individual people.** Meaning those who’s names were written in **the Lamb’s book of life**.

To me it is so precious that He had **me as an individual** in mind when He died for my sin.

If the names of the saved are already written down, how can we be sure our name is written there? First, as written in Philippians, *“Make your calling and election sure”*

Do we really Love The Lord? Does our life show it? Do we hate sin? Do we love to please God? Have we ever came to the point where we recognized ourselves as **sin** before God and ask His forgiveness? Have we yielded ourselves to Him un-reservedly.

How can that make a difference, if the names are already written down? Again, God gives breath, **do you breathe**? To **NOT** act is to say I don’t want God’s salvation.

Only God knows whose names are in His Book. And only God can give Grace and Faith for salvation.

We will not, cannot desire salvation, until convicted by The Holy Spirit. But when He convicts, we had better respond, for God says *“My spirit shall not always strive with man”*

What makes Christianity unique is**:**

In all other religions of the world people are trying to find some way to reach God, usually by some type of works, and that is impossible in their sinfulness. In true Christianity, God reaches down to man and lifts him from his bondage of sin, and makes him fit for His own family. What a wonderful God.

And when we truly have salvation, all this applies to us, including the verses we read at the beginning:

*Romans 8:35-39 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

*Hebrews 10:7-10 Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God. Above when he said, Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and offering for sin thou wouldest not, neither hadst pleasure therein; which are offered by the law; Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second. By the which will* ***we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.***

This statement “once for all” does not mean once for all people, or all people would be saved. It means once for all time. Christ shall never again be sacrificed for our sin.. He paid for all the sins of **His people** at that time.

Let us again look at Philippians***:***

*Philippians 1:6 Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you* ***will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:***

Our salvation begins and ends with God. God **Convicts us** gives us **Repentance,** God gives us **Faith,** God **keeps** us by His unfailing strength, and makes us **Children of God,** part of His family, and **His family is** **eternal.**

**Let us Praise our wonderful Saviour.**