

MUST BELIEVERS PERSEVERE TO BE ETERNALLY SECURE?

- *What do most “Christian” traditions teach about perseverance for salvation?*

A. Why Is Your Perseverance as a Believer in Christ Not Required for Eternal Salvation?

1. Because there is only _____ Savior of humanity, the Lord Jesus Christ. (Isa. 43:11; 45:21-22; John 14:6; Acts 4:12; 1 Tim. 2:4-5)
2. Because of the principle that salvation is _____ or _____ or _____ to the Lord. (Ps. 3:8; 68:20; Jon. 2:9; Rev. 7:10)
3. Because of the many verses _____ the _____ of God the Father or Jesus Christ saving, keeping, and preserving, rather than believers keeping themselves saved through perseverance. (John 6:39; 10:28-29; 17:11-12; Rom. 5:9-10; 8:29-30; 8:34; 2 Tim. 1:12; 4:18; Heb. 7:25)
4. Because at the exact _____ a sinner first _____ in Christ, God completes several instantaneous and irreversible transactions on our behalf: the Holy Spirit permanently regenerates us (Titus 3:5), indwells us (John 14:16), baptizes us into Christ’s own body (1 Cor. 12:12-13), seals us in Christ (Eph. 1:13). God also adopts us (Eph. 1:5), forgives us (Col. 2:13), justifies us (Rom. 5:1), reconciles us (2 Cor. 5:19), redeems us (Eph. 1:7), gives us everlasting life in Christ (Rom. 6:23), and guarantees our future bodily resurrection and glorification (Rom. 8:18-23).
5. Because Jesus illustrated belief in Him for eternal life with a single, momentary act of _____ (John 3:14-15); _____ (John 4:13-15); or _____ (John 6:31-35, 47-51).
6. Because the adjective _____ (*pistos*) occurs 67x in the New Testament but is never used as the condition for eternal life in contrast to its noun “faith” (*pistis*) and verb “believe” (*pisteuo*) forms.
7. Because the New Testament describes believers as possessing eternal life that can never be lost; yet it also says it’s possible for you as believer to . . .
 - a) believe only _____. (Luke 8:13)
 - b) _____ from sincere faith. (1 Tim. 1:3-7)
 - c) _____ your faith. (1 Tim. 1:19)

- d) _____ the faith. (1 Tim. 5:8)
- e) _____ initial faith. (1 Tim. 5:12)
- f) _____ from the faith. (1 Tim. 6:10, 21)
- g) have your faith _____. (2 Tim. 2:18)
- h) be _____. (2 Tim. 2:13)

B. Why Should You Persevere as a Believer in Christ?

1. Because of the overwhelming, infinite _____ and _____ of God for every believer. (2 Cor. 4:15-18; 5:14-15; Eph. 3:18-19; 1 John 4:10, 17-19)
2. Because of the abundant and sufficient _____ for the race of life according to the riches of God's grace (Eph. 1:3; 3:8, 16; 2 Peter 1:3-4), including Christ's _____ power (Rom. 6:4-6; 2 Cor. 1:8-10; 4:7-14; 12:9-10; Phil. 3:10), being _____ by God (Rom. 8:1-4; Gal. 5:16; Eph. 5:18), and having the _____ of God (Eph. 6:17; Heb. 4:12).
3. Because of the _____ of _____ we can experience through fellowship with the Lord. (Ps. 16:11; 51:12; John 10:9-10; 15:11; 16:24; Gal. 5:22; 1 John 1:3-4)
4. Because of the unsurpassed value of spiritual growth and _____ into Christ's _____. (Rom. 5:3-4; 2 Cor. 3:18; Gal. 4:19; Jam. 1:3-4; 5:10-11)
5. Because of the privilege of being an _____ for Christ in leading others to eternal salvation in Him. (2 Cor. 5:20; 6:2-4; 2 Tim. 2:10)
6. Because of the prospect of a _____ resurrection (Heb. 11:35) and a glorious, eternal _____ (Luke 14:14; 2 Tim. 4:7-8; Jam. 1:12).
7. Because of our high calling and purpose to _____ God. (1 Chron. 16:28-29; Ps. 96:7-8; 1 Cor. 10:31; Rev. 4:11)