

THE ETERNAL SECURITY OF THE BELIEVER
PART 3
ROMANS 8:1-17

Introduction

The question we are looking to answer from the Word of God is this:

Can a child of God ever lose his salvation?

We've seen thus far that a child of God can never be lost:

- I. *Because God's Power Keeps Him Saved!*
- II. *Because "Everlasting Life" and "Eternal Life" Have No End!*
- III. *Because Salvation Is By Grace Through Faith, Not By The Law Or By Works!*
- IV. *Because Our Redemption Is An Eternal Redemption!*
- V. *Because Jesus Is Our Substitute!*
- VI. *Because Of The Principle Of The New Birth!*
- VII. *Because There Is An Unbroken Chain In God's Plan Of Salvation.*
What is this plan? It consists of six parts:
Foreknowledge, Election, Predestination, Calling, Justification, Glorification.

VIII. BECAUSE OF THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE BELIEVER'S LIFE! (ROMANS 8:1-17)

A. The Indwelling Ministry Of The Holy Spirit.

The Scriptures definitely teach that in this Church age, **the Holy Spirit indwells the life of every saved person.**

The Scriptures also definitely teach that **this indwelling begins at the time that a person first belongs to Christ (not at some later date.)**

And, the Scriptures definitely teach that **the constant indwelling of His presence shall continue without ending.**

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1. The Holy Spirit Of God Indwells The Life Of Every Saved Person! (Vs 9)

Two facts are brought out in this verse.

a. The Holy Spirit Of God Does Actually Indwell A Person.

He is not just an external force.

b. The Holy Spirit Of God Indwells Every Person Who Is Saved.

This refutes the teaching that says when a person is saved the Holy Spirit only comes to dwell with him, but that at some later time, at some subsequent experience after conversion, the Holy Spirit comes within to dwell inside the believer.

2. 1 Corinthians 3:16.

This verse refers to the Corinthian believers, into whose lives had come envying, strife, and divisions as well as some other distasteful sins!

They certainly were not without sin, nor had they reached a state of full surrender to God's will; nevertheless, Paul's word to them was that they had the Holy Spirit dwelling in their bodies just the same!

We know that they were saved by reading 1 Cor. 3:1.

3. 1 Corinthians 6:9-19.

Even though some of the believers had a problem with fornication, **Paul says that they still had the Holy Spirit dwelling in them!**

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4. John 14:16-17.

- a. Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit would come to abide with them **forever!**
- b. Jesus said this dwelling would be an **indwelling** presence of the Spirit!
- c. Jesus said that **the world (i.e. the unsaved) could not receive the Holy Spirit.**

Now, **if the Holy Spirit dwells only in a saved person and He never leaves that person, then of course that person can never be lost after he is saved!**

This does not mean that a child of God cannot do things that will **hurt or grieve the Holy Spirit** who dwells in Him! (*Ephesians 4:30*)

Anything a Christian does that is wrong, will grieve the Holy Spirit, but the Holy Spirit does not leave the child of God when he sins.

5. Objections.

Why does the Bible say in *1 Samuel 16:14*—“*But the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul,...*” and...

Why did David pray to God in *Psalms 51:11*, “*Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me.*”

In Old Testament times, the Spirit of God would come on men and empower them for service, but he did not indwell them.

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We've seen already where Jesus promised His disciples that the Holy Spirit would come to them after His departure and indwell them!

The indwelling of the Holy Spirit is unique to the Church age!

A Child of God Can Never Be Lost Because Of The Indwelling Ministry Of The Holy Spirit.

B. The Sealing Ministry Of The Holy Spirit. (Ephesians 1:12-14)

When a person believes the Gospel and is saved, he is “**sealed**” with the Holy Spirit! That is the expression used in the Bible!

Now, just what does it mean for the Christian to be “**sealed**”?

1. A Seal Represents An Earnest Or Pledge. (Vs 14)

- a. The “**possession**” refers to the child of God of God who is owned by Jesus Christ.
- b. The “**possession**” has been “**purchased**” by the blood of Christ.
- c. The Holy Spirit is said to be the “**earnest**” or pledge until the final redemption (referring to the time when Jesus comes again to take us home with Him!)

(e.g. Buying a car and putting down earnest money.)

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Romans 8:23—“...ourselves also, which have the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to with the redemption of our body.”

One day, at the rapture, we will be resurrected with bodies, but they will be glorified like the body Christ now has in heaven.

(1 Corinthians 15:25-58)

But already, right now, we have the “*firstfruits*,” the first installment or down payment of the Holy Spirit as a guarantee of our resurrection life to come!

- d. The Holy Spirit is our promise that one day we shall certainly have a complete inheritance.

A Seal Represents An Earnest Or Pledge.

2. A Seal Represents Ownership.

2 Timothy 2:19a says this: “*Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal. The Lord knoweth them that are his.*”

So with the Holy Spirit as our seal, there is definite knowledge that we belong to the Lord.

Sometimes we cannot say for sure just who is a child of God and who is not; but there is one thing for sure—**THE LORD KNOWS!**

Matthew 7:21-23

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3. A Seal Represents Security. (Ephesians 4:30)

This verse points out for exactly what length of time we are sealed—“*unto the day of redemption.*”

Therefore, we can say that surely this seal acts as security, and makes us so secure that nothing will be able to keep us from arriving at that day.

Conclusion

So, the question is this: Have you ever become a child of God?

I’m not asking if you’ve:

- Prayed a sinner’s prayer,
- Been baptized,
- Joined a Church, or
- If you are doing the best you can.

If not, why don’t you come let us show you how to get into God’s family today!?

If you are a child of God, you are secure in your salvation because of the ministry of the Holy Spirit in your life!

- 1) The Indwelling Ministry Of The Spirit.
- 2) The Sealing Ministry Of The Spirit.