

REDEEMED Series Road Map

- | | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|--|
| 1. Introduction | 8. *Irresistible Grace | 15. Sanctification |
| 2. *Unconditional Election | 9. Regeneration | 16. Good Works |
| 3. Predestination | 10. Union with Christ | 17. Assurance of Salvation |
| 4. *Total Depravity | 11. Saving Faith | 18. *Perseverance of the Saints |
| 5. Atonement | 12. Repentance | 19. <u>Perseverance</u> |
| 6. *Limited Atonement | 13. Justification | 20. Glorification |
| 7. Effectual Calling | 14. Adoption | * = <i>Doctrines of Grace (T.U.L.I.P.)</i> |

Redeemed #58 – Perseverance Part 3

Book Recommendation: [Thomas Schreiner *Run to Win the Prize* \(Crossway, 2010\)](#)

1 – What are Warning Passages?

2 – Warning Passage Example: Mark 13

Mark 13:10 And the gospel must first be proclaimed to all nations. **11** And when they bring you to trial and deliver you over, do not be anxious beforehand what you are to say, but say whatever is given you in that hour, for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit. **12** And brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death. **13** And you will be hated by all for my name’s sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.

1st – Context

2nd – Conditions

3rd – Chronology

[Schreiner & Caneday commenting on this view wrote:](#)

“Marshal has inverted the function of the words Jesus designs to console his followers who face persecution and death on his behalf. His inversion turns them into words that express uncertainty and doubt about the outcome.” (Schreiner & Caneday, *The Race Set Before Us*, p150)

Schreiner & Caneday comment:

“The result is that they convert the consequence of perseverance (salvation not yet attained) in to the cause of perseverance (salvation already possessed).” (Schreiner & Caneday, The Race Set Before Us, p150)

Perseverance & the “Already-and-Not-Yet”

Schreiner & Caneday comment on this error:

Flawed quote by John MacArthur:

- “Jesus, speaking to His disciples, said, ‘It is the one who has endured to the end who will be saved’. Now at first glance that appears to contradict the truth that God is going to keep us saved, but it doesn’t. We are energized to endure by the indwelling Spirit. The mark of justification is perseverance in righteousness to the very end.”

Schreiner & Caneday comment critically: This is a remarkable comment, characteristic of many Calvinists, for without realization or intention, anyone who explains the text this way inverts the two elements of the conditional promise. The explanation essentially reads the text as saying, “The one who is saved will persevere unto the end.” This is both biblically & theologically accurate, but the text we are examining does not say that. It is a case of good theology but from the wrong verse. Rather, the text says, “The one who perseveres to the end will be saved.” (Schreiner & Caneday, The Race Set Before Us, p150)

3 – Hebrews Warnings

Warning in Hebrews 2:1-4

Heb. 2:1 Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. **2** For since the message declared by angels proved to be reliable, and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, **3** how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard,

Warning in Hebrews 3:1-4:3

Heb. 3:12 Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. **13** But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called “today,” that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. **14** For we have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end.

Warning in Hebrews 5:11-6:12

Heb. 6:4 For it is impossible, in the case of those who have once been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly gift, and have shared in the Holy Spirit, **5** and have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the age to come, **6** and then have fallen away, to restore them again to repentance, since they are crucifying once again the Son of God to their own harm and holding him up to contempt.

Warning in Hebrews 10:19-39

Heb. 10:26 For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, 27 but a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries.

Warning in Hebrews 12:12-29

Heb. 12:25 See that you do not refuse him who is speaking. For if they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, much less will we escape if we reject him who warns from heaven.

4 common, but WRONG, ways these are addressed:

1. The Loss of Salvation view = the Christian can actually lose their salvation
2. The Loss of Rewards view = the Christian is already saved, but can lose rewards in heaven
3. The Test of Genuineness view = the Christian is already saved, these warnings test the genuineness of their faith & thus spur them on (most common in Reformed circles)
4. The Hypothetical Loss of Salvation view = the Christian is saved & IF they could apostatize, turn from Jesus fully & finally, they would Not be able to become a Christian again...but it is just hypothetical & can't happen

1st Who?

2nd What?

3rd When?

4th When & Why?

Is God a Liar or Deceitful?

On one side:

Or, on the other side:

The warning passages are simply saying is this:

“Runner, keep running, keep your eyes on the prize and your legs turning over toward the finish line....because the promised salvation and inheritance in Jesus Christ comes only to those who persevere in faithfulness to the end.”

Warning Passages as Road Signs:

Warning Passage as Conceivable Danger

Rock Climber Example:

Bridge Example:

Charles Spurgeon wrote:

In some old castle there is a deep cellar, where there is a vast amount of fixed air and gas, which would kill anybody who went down. What does the guide say? "If you go down you will never come up alive." Who thinks of going down? The very fact of the guide telling us what the consequences would be, keeps us from it. Our friend puts away from us a cup of arsenic; he does not want us to drink it, but he says, "If you drink it, it will kill you." Does he suppose for a moment that we should drink it? No; he tells us the consequences, and he is sure we will not do it. So God says, "My child, if you fall over this precipice you will be dashed to pieces." What does the child do? He says, "Father, keep me; hold thou me up, and I shall be safe." It leads the believer to greater dependence on God, to a holy fear and caution, because he knows that if he were to fall away he could not be renewed, and he stands far away from that great gulf, because he knows that if he were to fall into it there would be no salvation for him. (Charles H. Spurgeon sermon: *Final Perseverance*)

4 – What about Fallen Runners

What about those who profess faith & who wander off & don't finish the race?

What about those who are backslidden?

What about Christians and suicide?