Introduction

Sadly, there are folks who **BELIEVE and TEACH** that once people are **SAVED**, they must stay **COMPLETELY FREE** from any **ACTS OF SIN** or they will lose their **SALVATION**. However, anyone who believes that **SINLESS PERFECTION** is ever possible this side of **ETERNITY** is **SELF-DECEIVED**!

The **BIBLE** clearly says in *1 John 1:8, "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us."* (By the way...That was written by a **BELIEVER** and an **APOSTLE** to other **BELIEVERS**!)

There are others who TEACH that there can come a POINT OF SIN or a LEVEL OF SIN that a BELIEVER reaches in their life where they sin to the point that they LOSE their SALVATION.

Now understand, the folks who teach this can't give you any **SCRIPTURE** to substantiate **at what point** someone would actually lose their **SALVATION**, but nevertheless, they teach it.

Let's keep it BIBLICAL. How many sins did it take to plunge the world into sin? According to the GENESIS account of ADAM and EVE, we READ and KNOW that it only took ONE SIN of SIMPLE DISOBEDIENCE to plunge mankind into SIN to begin with! ONE SIMPLE SIN! If it was possible to LOSE one's SALVATION, why would it be any different to LOSE one's SALVATION?

Can a CHILD OF GOD ever LOSE his or her SALVATION and be CONDEMNED? No! No way! Can't happen! A person does not become a CHILD OF GOD by keeping GOD'S LAW or by **REFORMING** their life, nor by any ACTS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS on their part.

A person can ONLY become a CHILD OF GOD by <u>BEING BORN INTO</u> <u>GOD'S FAMILY</u> by GOD'S GOOD GRACE through FAITH in the FINISHED WORK OF JESUS CHRIST on the CROSS OF CALVARY! (Ephesians 2:8-9)

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Now understand that when I speak of "*A BORN-AGAIN CHILD OF GOD*," I am referring to someone who has genuinely REPENTED of their SIN of UNBELIEF and have TURNED BY FAITH LOOKING TO THE LORD JESUS CHRIST AND HIM ALONE FOR THEIR SALVATION!

Such a person, the **BIBLE** teaches, is "*BORN AGAIN*," and as such becomes A CHILD OF GOD!

John 1:12–"But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name."

There is a lot of confusion over the subject of **ETERNAL SECURITY** because of our own **HUMAN REASONING!** (Understand that our **HUMAN REASONING** is **FLAWED...TAINTED BY SIN!**)

However, the BIBLE BOTH CLAIMS TO BE AND IS OUR ABSOLUTE AUTHORITY for LIVING! And, there are a good number of BIBLE REASONS why a genuine CHILD OF GOD CAN NEVER BE LOST!

I want to pause moving on through *Romans 8* right now and spend some time tonight and over the next several weeks examining the fact that there is, as it says here, "*NO CONDEMNATION TO THEM WHICH ARE IN CHRIST JESUS*" and look at **BIBLE REASONS** why **GENUINE BELIEVERS** are **ETERNALLY SECURE** in their **SALVATION!** Because our **BELIEF** in the **DOCTRINE of ETERNAL SECURITY** is based on **GOD'S WORD** where it should be based!

I. THERE IS NO CONDEMNATION BECAUSE GOD'S POWER IS WHAT KEEPS US SAVED! (1 Peter 1:3-5; John 10:27-29) If SALVATION were to be maintained by our own POWER, then we could easily understand that it would not be difficult to LOSE it.

But the **BIBLE** teaches that it is **NOT OUR POWER**, but rather the **POWER OF GOD that keeps us SAVED**!

So, if a CHILD OF GOD could LOSE SALVATION, then GOD would have failed in HIS clearly revealed intention to KEEP US!

Jude 1:24 "Now to him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,

II. THERE IS NO CONDEMNATION BECAUSE BY DEFINITION "EVERLASTING LIFE" AND "ETERNAL LIFE" HAVE NO END! (John 3:16, 36; John 5:24; John 6:40)

The words *"EVERLASTING LIFE"* and *"ETERNAL LIFE"* simply refer to the fact that the NATURE of that NEW LIFE IN CHRIST which GOD GIVES to the BELIEVER at the time of SALVATION is a life that will NEVER END!

Think about whose LIFE we get and what the **BIBLE** says about it! *Romans 6:5-10*

So, if there were any possibility of losing it, then it could not be called *"everlasting"* or *"eternal"* life.

If words mean anything at all, then these SCRIPTURES tell us that when a person BELIEVES on the LORD JESUS CHRIST, GOD gives them a LIFE that is *EVERLASTING* or *ETERNAL*-that is, A LIFE THAT HAS NO END!

Because, **if he <u>COULD</u> LOSE IT**, it certainly **COULD NOT** and **WOULD NOT** be called *EVERLASTING* or *ETERNAL!*

III. THERE IS NO CONDEMNATION BECAUSE SALVATION IS BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH, NOT BY LAW OR BY WORKS! (Romans 4:3-8)

No person was ever saved by **KEEPING THE LAW** nor by his own **GOOD WORKS**, neither in **OLD TESTAMENT** times or since **CHRIST DIED AND ROSE AGAIN!**

ABRAHAM who lived BEFORE THE LAW, was SAVED BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH! (Vs. 3-5)

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DAVID, who LIVED UNDER THE LAW, taught that those in his day were **NOT SAVED BY THEIR WORKS!** (Vs. 4-7)

In NEW TESTAMENT times, the APOSTLE PAUL told both the CHURCH at EPHESUS and the young preacher TITUS that SALVATION WAS BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH. (Ephesians 2:8-9; Titus 3:5)

If GOD BESTOWED initial SALVATION without effort but then required us to PERFORM in order to MAINTAIN OUR SALVATION, then SALVATION IS NOT A GIFT at all but rather is something we must WORK in order to have!

If a **BELIEVER** must **WORK AT RIGHTEOUSNESS** to **MAINTAIN POSSESSION OF SALVATION**, then the **POSSESSION** of that **SALVATION** ultimately rests on **WORKS** even if one claims it is initially given freely!

That stands in direct contrast to what the **WORD OF GOD** says! *Romans 6:23– "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."*

IV. THERE IS NO CONDEMNATION BECAUSE OUR REDEMPTION IS AN ETERNAL REDEMPTION! (Hebrews 9:12; 10:9-23) The REDEMPTION of our SOULS from SIN that was made possible by JESUS CHRIST on CALVARY'S CROSS, is an ETERNAL MATTER!

What I'm saying is that what was **ACCOMPLISHED** at the **CROSS** was **DONE ONCE AND FOR ALL** and is **SUFFICIENT** for the **PURPOSE** for which **GOD INTENDED it**.

Those who deny **ETERNAL SECURITY** fail to realize that their position **IMPLIES** that there is some **DEFECT** in the **REDEMPTION OBTAINED BY CHRIST ON THE CROSS!**

If a **BELIEVER** can **LOSE SALVATION** and **SUFFER ETERNAL PUNISHMENT** because of **SINS**, then somehow **CHRIST'S WORK ON THE CROSS** must not have completely solved the **SIN** problem!

That is an insult to **CHRIST'S WORK ON THE CROSS!** *Galatians 3:13* "Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:"

Titus 2:14 "Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity..."

Ephesians 1:7 "In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;" [Redemption is already a present possession!]

1 Peter 1:18-19 "Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; 19 But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:" [Redemption past tense!]

The possibility of SINS existing for which a BELIEVER must spend an ETERNITY under GOD'S WRATH would mean that the CROSS did not FULLY SATISFY (PROPITIATE) GOD'S WRATH over SIN!

Romans 3:25 "Whom God hath set forth to be a **propitiation**, through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;"

1 John 2:1-2 My little children, these things I write to you, that ye sin not. And if any man sinneth, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: **2** And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

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1 John 4:10 "Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins."

Either THERE HAS BEEN REDEMPTION FOR OUR SINS <u>or</u> THERE HAS NOT BEEN REDEMPTION FOR OUR SINS! Which is it?

Either THERE HAS BEEN A PROPITIATION OF GOD'S WRATH ON OUR BEHALF <u>or</u> THERE HAS NOT BEEN A PROPITIATION OF GOD'S WRATH ON OUR BEHALF!

Either CHRIST'S WORK ON THE CROSS FINISHED THE SIN PROBLEM or not!

John 19:30 "When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost."

Colossians 2:13 "And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;"

Conclusion

THERE IS NO CONDEMNATION FOR A CHILD OF GOD: Because God's Power Keeps Him Saved!

Because "Everlasting Life" and "Eternal Life" Have No End!

Because Salvation Is By Grace Through Faith, Not By The Law Or By Works!

Because Our Redemption Is An Eternal Redemption!

The question is-Are you A CHILD OF GOD?

We're dealing with the **Eternal Security Of The Believer** in this sub-series: We're looking at this question: How is it possible that there is **NO CONDEMNATION** ever again to a genuine **CHILD OF GOD?** (*Rom 8:1*) Last time, in the first part of this series, we saw that according to Scripture there can **NEVER EVER BE CONDEMNATION** of a child of God again:

Because God's Power Keeps Him Saved! Because "Everlasting Life" and "Eternal Life" Have No End! Because Salvation Is By Grace Through Faith, Not By The Law Or By Works!

Because Our Redemption Is An Eternal Redemption!

V. THERE IS NO CONDEMNATION BECAUSE JESUS IS OUR SUBSTITUTE! (2 Corinthians 5:21)

There is much that we can never explain about the DEATH of the LORD JESUS CHRIST, but this much we do know: **HE DIED FOR US!** That is, **HE DIED IN OUR PLACE** and **IN OUR STEAD!**

It is CHRIST'S RIGHTEOUSNESS, and not our own human righteousness or human merit, that is the BASIS OF THE BELIEVER'S ACCEPTANCE AND STANDING WITH GOD!

Our SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS DID NOT SAVE US in the first place, and **it is NOT the BASIS upon which SALVATION IS CONTINUED!**

Isaiah 64:6 "But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away."

According to the SCRIPTURE here in *2 Corinthians 5:21*, GOD COUNTED CHRIST AS A SINNER and PUNISHED HIM ON THE CROSS OF CALVARY, and HE COUNTS US AS RIGHTEOUS!

CHRIST'S RIGHTEOUSNESS BROUGHT US OUR SALVATION!

NO CONDEMNATION? PART 2 ROMANS 8:1

So the real issue is **not the endurance of human righteousness, but the ETERNAL NATURE OF CHRIST'S RIGHTEOUSNESS!**

A BELIEVER cannot lose his RIGHTEOUSNESS or RIGHTEOUS LEGAL STANDING BEFORE GOD because CHRIST'S RIGHTEOUSNESS IS ETERNAL!

Romans 4:5; 5:17-19

1 Corinthians 1:30–"But of him [i.e. of God] *are ye in Christ Jesus, who from God is made to us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:"*

Ephesians 1:6-7–"To the praise of the glory of his grace, in which **he** hath made us accepted in the beloved: 7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;"

Colossians 2:10–"And ye are complete in him, who is the head of all principality and power:"

VI. THERE IS NO CONDEMNATION BECAUSE OF THE PRINCIPLE OF THE NEW BIRTH. (John 1:12-13) We are BORN OF GOD! BORN into HIS FAMILY! So, is there any way in the world that a person could be "unborn" or kicked out of GOD'S FAMILY? Look at what JESUS said in John 6:37-40!

2 Peter 1:4 says that we are "partakers of the divine nature."

VII. THERE IS NO CONDEMNATION BECAUSE THERE IS AN UNBROKEN CHAIN IN GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION! (Romans 8:28-30)
The WORD OF GOD reveals to us that GOD HAS A SET PLAN BY WHICH HE SAVES A PERSON AND BRINGS THEM TO ETERNAL GLORY!

Now we know that *verse 28* does not mean that every little thing that happens to us as **BELIEVERS**:

- 1) will make us feel better now,
- 2) or make us happier now,
- 3) or will work out for our good right now.

But it does mean that **EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENS TO A CHILD OF GOD, HAPPENS FOR HIS ULTIMATE GOOD** in **GOD'S PLAN** of finally bringing such a person into **FULL CONFORMITY TO THE IMAGE OF THE SON OF GOD!**

If anyone could **POSSESS SALVATION**, but then **LOSE THEIR SALVATION**, how could that work out for their good? And, just how is it that **GOD** is so sure that everything that happens to us in this world will work out for our ultimate good? Quite simply, it is because **GOD** has a PLAN whereby it will be accomplished!

What is this plan? It consists of six parts:

A. Foreknowledge. (Means "to know beforehand.") Jeremiah 1:5–"Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations."

GOD'S PLAN is first that HE FOREKNOWS A PERSON AHEAD OF TIME. (I know that's redundant!)

Here is an awesome thought: GOD KNEW IN ADVANCE EACH AND EVERY THING ABOUT US, AND YET HE CHOSE TO LOVE US! *(Romans 5:8)*

Speaking of **HIS CHOICE** of **ISRAEL** as **HIS** own peculiar people, **PAUL** wrote in *Romans 11:2–"God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew..."*

People that **BELIEVE** in **REPLACEMENT THEOLOGY** are in error! The **CHURCH** has not **REPLACED ISRAEL!**

NO CONDEMNATION? PART 2 ROMANS 8:1

GOD knows events before they occur and the character and choices of men before they are born! That is what makes the **WORD OF GOD** so special with its prophetic accuracy!

Prophecy is fulfilled with such minute accuracy because GOD knew and knows everything about everything—even before anything ever was!

Everything that happened in the physical life of **CHRIST** on earth was **foreknown** by **GOD**—right down to **HIS betrayal**, **arrest**, **trial**, **mistreatment**, **and ultimate crucifixion**!

Acts 2:23–"*Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain.*"

B. Election. (Means "selection or selecting")
1 Peter 1:2–"Elect according to the foreknowledge of God..."
ELECTION is the sovereign and eternal choice of persons!

All those DIVINELY CHOSEN cannot perish, for they were CHOSEN IN CHRIST before sin entered and before the course of human responsibility began!

Don't misunderstand, this does not mean that man has no choice in the matter!

GOD ELECTED those for SALVATION WHO WOULD TRUST CHRIST! He knew beforehand who they would be! JESUS said in John 6:64–"But there are some of you that believe not. For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were that believed not, and who should betray him."

GOD'S will is that all come to salvation, but all will not come! *1 Timothy 2:4-6; 4:10*

2 Peter 3:9—"The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to usward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."

The fact that not all will come to SALVATION, GOD KNEW BEFOREHAND!

John 12:32–"*And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me.*"

CHRIST is DRAWING ALL MEN unto HIMSELF, but NOT ALL WILL COME to a saving knowledge of HIM!

We know that eternal life is the gift of God through Christ Jesus. (Romans 6:23) But, did you know that even the faith to believe (i.e. the ability to believe) the Gospel is the gift of God?

Ephesians 2:8-9–"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast."

John 6:65–"And he said, Therefore said I unto you, that no man can come unto me, except it were given unto him of my Father."

God knew beforehand though who would EXERCISE THE GIFT OF FAITH and who would not!

Foreknowledge, Election

C. Predestination. (Means "to limit in advance, predetermine.") It is a fact that GOD PLANNED MAN'S SALVATION BEFORE CREATION! (Ephesians 1:5, 11)

This does not mean that GOD arbitrarily chose who will be saved and who will not be!

NO CONDEMNATION? PART 2 ROMANS 8:1

We've already seen that GOD has revealed that HE wants ALL men to be saved!

Again, GOD knows the future and knows who will receive HIS offer of salvation! Predestination is based on GOD'S foreknowledge and has more to do with what the BELIEVER is predestinated TO than WHO is predestinated.

Here in our text, predestination has to do with us being conformed to the image of Christ! (Vs 29)

To live forever in our present condition would not be good for us! What kind of life would that be?

GOD PREDESTINES EACH CHILD OF GOD TO BE CONFORMED TO THE IMAGE OF CHRIST; that is, he determines ahead of time that every BELIEVER shall ultimately reach glory with CHRIST! (2 Corinthians 3:18; 1 John 3:1-3)

Can you see how that guarantees our **ETERNAL SECURITY**?

So, GOD FOREKNEW us, ELECTED those of us who are IN CHRIST, HE PREDESTINED US TO BE CONFORMED TO THE IMAGE OF CHRIST, then,:

D. Calling.

In order to accomplish this, GOD calls this person to SALVATION! None of us could be SAVED IF GOD HAD NOT CALLED US!

Romans 3:11–"There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God."

Left to ourselves, we all would be hopelessly lost!

Aren't you glad that the HOLY SPIRIT OF GOD CALLED YOU TO SALVATION?

E. Justification.

Justification means *"to render or regard as just or innocent."* GOD makes a person *"JUST"* by COUNTING THE PERFECT RIGHTEOUSNESS OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST TO HIS CREDIT!

(That is called *"Imputed Righteousness"*!) This happened *historically* at the CROSS! This happens *practically* when we TRUST IN or BELIEVE ON the LORD JESUS CHRIST, ACCEPTING or RECEIVING HIM as our personal LORD AND SAVIOUR!

Romans 3:24–"Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus."

F. Glorification.

(*Glorification* means "*to render or esteem glorious.*") This refers to the ultimate and absolute physical, mental, and spiritual perfections of all **BELIEVERS**!

As I have pointed out many times—our salvation is threefold:

- 1) Past Aspect Salvation Saved From Sin's Penalty!
- 2) Present Aspect Sanctification Saved From Sin's Power!
- 3) Future Aspect Glorification Saved From Sin's Presence!

But we need to keep in mind that **this is one complete chain that is unbroken** which is **GOD'S PLAN** of working from *"eternity past"* to *"eternity future"* to make sure that a **BELIEVER** is ultimately perfected and finally gets to Heaven at last! Look at *Romans 8:31-39*

NO CONDEMNATION? PART 2 ROMANS 8:1

Vs 31– Nothing could stand against such a person who has **GOD** on his side...who has **GOD** working in his favor to cause **ALL THINGS** to work out for his final good!

Vs 32– Would **GOD** have paid the price of our salvation if **HE** knew beforehand **HE** would not or could not keep us?

Vs 33– Who can accuse the **CHILD OF GOD**? Who can say he ought to go to Hell? **GOD** doesn't even count or look upon the **SINS** of those who have been called into salvation! *(Cf. Hebrews 12:5-11)*

Vs 34– Who is in a position to condemn those who **CHRIST** has **REDEEMED**?

Vs 35-39– Who or what is powerful enough to separate us from the LOVE OF CHRIST? No one and no thing!

Conclusion

There is **NO CONDEMNATION** for **BELIEVERS** because of **GOD'S PURPOSE** and **PLAN** for those who **HE SAVES**!

The question is, are you a child of God? Foreknowledge Election Predestination Calling Justification Glorification

Let me assure you that **NOTHING** prevents **SALVATION** today except one's **STUBBORN UNBELIEF**! And if you are **SAVED**, **NOTHING** will prevent your **ULTIMATE GLORIFICATION IN HEAVEN WITH CHRIST**! Your **ETERNAL SECURITY** is **ABSOLUTELY ASSURED by THE WORD OF GOD**!