

16. PERSEVERANCE OF THE SAINTS

- definition
 - Westminster Confession of Faith¹:

- Scriptural affirmations regarding our salvation:

Ps. 138:8; Is. 46:4; Phil. 1:6; Jer. 32:40; Rom. 11:29
 Jn. 6:39-40; 10:27-29; 2 Tim. 4:18 ; Heb. 7:25

- “eternal security”

Heb. 12:14

- “once saved, always saved”
 - statements denying the perseverance of the saints²
 - “Even if a believer for all practical purposes becomes an unbeliever, his salvation is not in jeopardy.” –Charles Stanley
 - “The Bible makes it clear that many believers will not persevere in loyalty to Christ; some will become apostates, yet continue to be Christians.” –Zane Hodges
 - “Believers who become agnostics are still saved. They are still born again. You can even become an atheist. But if you once accept Christ as Savior, you cannot lose your salvation...even though you deny God.” –author unknown

Eph. 2:10; Jn. 15:8, 16
 1 Sam. 16:6; 1 Jn. 2:19

- “can a person lose their salvation?”

Heb. 6:4-6
 1 Jn. 4:10; Rom. 5:7-10; Heb. 12:2

- additional affirmations of God’s preservation as we persevere

Jn. 5:24; Col. 1:22-23; Heb. 10:14; 1 Jn. 5:11-13

¹ WCF, chapter XVII, “Of the Perseverance of the Saints.”

² Arturo G. Azurdia, “Perseverance of the Saints,” from series *The Doctrines of Grace*, lecture #5.