

## Quick Guide to Eternal Security

Paul in the context of speaking of Israel's election into God's family says in

**Romans 11: 29** "*for God's gifts and his call are irrevocable*"

**John 6:35-40** Jesus says in verse 37 " All that the father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will *never* drive away"

**Romans 8:28-39** The "Ordo Salutis" or Order of Salvation clearly teaches eternal security. Verse 30 sums it up " Those he predestined, he also called, those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified." Clearly there is a progression here. Once you start you finish. It doesn't say *some* who are called are glorified. Once you belong to God he sees it through to the ultimate glorification.

**Hebrews 10:11-14** How do you explain the word forever in verse 14 if we don't have eternal security?

**1 Corinthians 1:8,9** "He will keep you strong to the end" and why? "Because God who has called us is faithful"

**2 Thess 2:13-17** Why did God call us? To share in Christ's glory, not fall away. In verse 16, how can we have eternal encouragement and good hope if I need to worry about losing my salvation. That wouldn't be much of a hope or encouragement.

**2 Timothy 1:12** God is strong enough to guard what we have entrusted to him, i.e. our salvation.

**2 Tim. 4: 18** "The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack, and will bring me safely to his kingdom." Clearly I need to trust God to fulfill his promises to me.

**John 10:27-29** "and they shall *never* perish"

**John 17:1-26** Jesus is praying for and interceding for believers, even future believers. Are we to believe his prayers on our behalf, to keep us will go unanswered?

**Hebrews 7:25** Jesus is able to save **completely** (or Forever) and is interceding for us. Do you think Jesus is up to the task?

**Romans 5:9-11** If God can reconcile us even through our sins, How much more can he help us live for Christ now that we are saved. The power to live a Christ like life is not in us but is only possible by The Spirit's continued presence.

**Galatians 3:3** It is foolish to rely on ourselves to continue to live a righteous life. It is not even a possibility .

**Philippians 1:3-6** " .... being *confident* that he who has begun a good work in you will carry it on to completion " Don't we believe Christ can finish what he started?

One final thought though, If the Apostle Paul continued to preach about the concept of being adopted into God's family (a recurring theme throughout his letters) I believe this is an extremely strong argument for eternal security. To lose your salvation you would have to be un-adopted. Within the idea of losing and regaining your salvation there must be a provision for being re-adopted. The whole idea sounds ludicrous. Could you really put your trust in a heavenly father that would un-adopt you?

Persons who believe in the possibility of losing your salvation must also clear another theological hurdle. If God foreknows, and predestined us why would he adopt someone he knew beforehand would turn away and be dismissed from his family? To believe this we have to believe we can thwart the predestined will of God.

Could we give or could God expect our unconditional loyalty if God gave us such a conditional loyalty in return? Its unrealistic to think we could ever be comfortable loving God, thinking of him as our father, abba, daddy, if we were in fear of drifting into sin and being severed from the relationship.

This is clearly the opposite of what Jesus taught in the story of the prodigal son. (Luke 15). Clearly the son fell into the most grievous sin against his father. Did his father sever the relationship? No! He welcomed him back with rejoicing as if he had never left. If this earthly father could show this kind of unconditional love how much more could God show us this kind of unconditional love.

Either we believe God and his promises to keep us or we don't. I for one know that my God is capable of seeing this through even if I stumble and fall. His spirit will always be with you even to the end of the age. Amen

Once you are among God's elect you need not worry about losing it. You didn't do anything to earn it in the first place.

***Ephesians 2:8,9 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith, and this is not from yourselves, it is a gift from God, not by works so that no one can boast.***

If my salvation is a gift from God, is a just and holy God going to take his gift back?