



## SCHOOL OF MINISTRY

### FOUNDATION LEVEL – Lesson 4: Can A Born-Again Believer Lose Their Salvation?

In the last lesson we looked at Biblical Salvation and saw from the scriptures that true Redemption through Jesus Christ happens in three dimensions.

Firstly, Salvation is Spiritual and represents the reality of what Christ has done on behalf of all mankind. It is always outlined in the Scriptures in the past tense. It has been finished, completed, done and fulfilled. 2Cor5:16-19, Col1:12-14, 2Tim1:9

Then Salvation is an ongoing process that flows out from what has been completed into the realm of the mind, soul and emotions and body. This does NOT add or subtract from Salvation in any way! This is presented in Scripture in the present continuous tense. Here the Believer is expected to exert Calvary's victory over the body (flesh), mind and thoughts and imagination. 1Cor1:18, Phil2:12.

Lastly Salvation is the final physical redemption of the Body which will take place in the future. This is not accomplished at death but some predetermined time when God in Christ will appear and Call out and Raise up Believers and their Bodies. 1Cor15:24-25,51-54, Heb9:28.

#### Scriptures that Support Christians cannot lose salvation

- [John 8:29](#), *"And He who sent Me is with Me; He has not left Me alone, for I always do the things that are pleasing to Him."*
- [John 6:39](#), *"This is the will of Him who sent Me, that of all that He has given Me I lose nothing, but raise it up on the last day."*
- [John 6:37](#), *"All that the Father gives me will come to me, and the one who comes to me I will certainly not cast out."*

Those who advocate for Once Saved always Saved highlight these passages and state that God the Father has given a select group of people to the Son.

They argue Secondly, in [John 8:29](#) Jesus told us that he always does the will of the Father because he says that he always does the things that are pleasing to Him. So, Jesus can never fail to do the will of the Father. If he did, then he would have sinned.



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Thirdly, we see in [John 6:39](#) Jesus said that it is the will of the Father that of all who have been given to Jesus that he would "lose nothing but raise it up on the last day." From this, we can conclude that Jesus cannot lose anyone and that those who

are given to him by the Father will also be resurrected. These are believers because Jesus says in [John 6:37](#), "All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out." Therefore, the context means that those who are raised are believers and is speaking of the resurrection to glory -- which occurs on "the last day," ([John 6:44](#); [11:24](#)). So, it is the will of the Father that of those whom are given to Jesus will all be saved and resurrected.

*1 John 5:13 I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.*

*John 3:15-16 that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him. For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.*

*John 5:24 I assure you: Anyone who hears My word and believes Him who sent Me has eternal life and will not come under judgment but has passed from death to life.*

Another point presented by those who teach Eternal Security is that the Life we receive from Salvation is Eternal. Therefore anyone who is Born Again or regenerated and redeemed in Christ has received an irreversible Gift from God. They present the point that It was God's purpose. Would God go back on His promise? Would God predestine someone to be saved then unsave them? No. God chose you, He will keep you, and He will work in your life until the end to make you more like Christ.

*Romans 8:28-30 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.*

*Ephesians 1:11-12 In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory.*

*Ephesians 1:4 For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will.*



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What or who can take believers out of the hand of the Lord? What or who can take believers out of the love of God in Jesus Christ? Can our sin? Can our trials? Can death? NO! He saved you and He will keep you! We are not able to keep ourselves, but the Almighty God can and He promised us that He will.

*John 10:28-30 I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. I and the Father are one.*

*Jude 1:24-25 To him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen.*

*Romans 8:37-39 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

*1 Peter 1:4-5 To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.*

*John 6:37-40 All those the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away. For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all those he has given me, but raise them up at the last day. For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day.*

*Our eternal salvation is sealed by the Holy Spirit. Is this verse false?<sup>12</sup>  
Ephesians 4:30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.*



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So are you saying that you can believe in Christ and live like the devil?

This is what was asked to Paul? Paul made it clear of course not. A true believer does not live in a lifestyle of sin. They are a new creation. They didn't change themselves God changed them. Christians don't desire to live in rebellion.

They desire to follow the Lord. Before we were saved we were wicked, but after we got saved we who are genuinely redeemed did not want to willfully sin. We just knew we couldn't go back to those things. Grace changes you. We don't obey because it saves us, we obey because we are saved.

*Romans 6:1-2 What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?*

*Romans 6:6 For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin because anyone who has died has been set free from sin*

*Ephesians 2:8-10 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.*

Grace and eternal security is not a license to sin. In fact, people prove that they are not God's children when they live in a continuous state of wickedness. This applies to a lot of Church going people.

*Jude 1:4 For certain individuals whose condemnation was written about long ago have secretly slipped in among you. They are ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into a license for immorality and deny Jesus Christ our only Sovereign and Lord.*

*Matthew 7:21-23 Not everyone who says to Me, Lord, Lord! will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of My Father in heaven. On that day many will say to Me, Lord, Lord, didn't we prophesy in Your name, drive out demons in Your name, and do many miracles in Your name? Then I will announce to them, I never knew you! Depart from Me, you lawbreakers!*

*1 John 3:8-10 Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of*



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*the devil. No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God's seed abides in him, and he cannot keep on sinning because he has been born of God. By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother.*

John 10:26-27 but you do not believe because you are not my sheep. **My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.**

Then there is the question; "well how about the apostate people who professed to be Christian and then turned away from the faith?"

The clear answer to this question is that many so called Christians were not saved to begin with. To acknowledge Christ or profess Christ with your lips is very different from being Born Again and Baptised into the Body of Christ.

That's why Jesus will say to some on that Day, depart from me, I never knew you! He didn't say you left me or abandoned me, He said "we never had a relationship to begin with"

1 John 2:19 **They went out from us, but they did not really belong to us. For if they had belonged to us, they would have remained with us;** but their going showed that none of them belonged to us.

Matthew 13:20-21 The seed falling on rocky ground refers to someone who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. But since **they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away.**

24. Philippians 1:6 being confident of this, that **he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.**

25. 1 John 1:7-9 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. **If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.**



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### Scriptures that Support Christians Can Lose their Salvation

*Luke 8:13 (NKJV) "But the ones on the rock [are those] who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, who believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away.*

*Matthew 10:22 (NKJV) "And you will be hated by all for My name's sake. But he who endures to the end will be saved.*

*Matthew 24:42-51 (NKJV) 42 "Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. 43 "But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. 44 "Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect. 45 "Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his master made ruler over his household, to give them food in due season? 46 "Blessed [is] that servant whom his master, when he comes, will find so doing. 47 "Assuredly, I say to you that he will make him ruler over all his goods. 48 "But if that evil servant says in his heart, 'My master is delaying his coming,' 49 "and begins to beat [his] fellow servants, and to eat and drink with the drunkards, 50 "the master of that servant will come on a day when he is not looking for [him] and at an hour that he is not aware of, 51 "and will cut him in two and appoint [him] his portion with the hypocrites. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.*

*John 3:36 (NKJV) "He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him."*

*Matthew 6:14-15 (NKJV) 14 "For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. 15 "But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.*

*Matthew 18:35 (NKJV) "So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses."*

*1 Corinthians 15:2 (NKJV) by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you--unless you believed in vain.*

*1 Corinthians 10:12 (NKJV) Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall.*

*1 Corinthians 6:9-11 (NKJV) 9 Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, 10 nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor*



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*extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. 11 And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.*

*1 Corinthians 9:27 (NKJV) But I discipline my body and bring [it] into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified.*

*2 Timothy 4:7-10 (NKJV) 7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 8 Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing. 9 Be diligent to come to me quickly; 10 for Demas has forsaken me, having loved this present world, and has departed for Thessalonica--Crescens for Galatia, Titus for Dalmatia.*

*2 Timothy 2:11-13 (NKJV) 11 [This is] a faithful saying: For if we died with [Him,] We shall also live with [Him.] 12 If we endure, We shall also reign with [Him.] If we deny [Him,] He also will deny us. 13 If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself.*

*Galatians 5:4 (NKJV) You have become estranged from Christ, you who [attempt to] be justified by law; you have fallen from grace.*

*Hebrews 10:25-32 (NKJV) 25 not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as [is] the manner of some, but exhorting [one another,] and so much the more as you see the Day approaching. 26 For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, 27 but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries. 28 Anyone who has rejected Moses' law dies without mercy on [the testimony of] two or three witnesses. 29 Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace? 30 For we know Him who said, ["Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,"] says the Lord. And again, ["The LORD will judge His people."] 31 It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God. 32 But recall the former days in which, after you were illuminated, you endured a great struggle with sufferings:*



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### Conclusion

When you have a Scriptural grasp of Salvation, you will have a better understanding where both camps are coming from.

There is a danger that those who teach that salvation can be lost due to sin in the life of a Believer can belittle the greatness and permanency of what the Cross has done. This could lead to legalistic minded and works based Christian living.

The danger of the once saved always saved camp is that the teaching can lead to careless Believers who in their heart sin without any remorse and a lack of biblical vigilance to live a sanctified holy life.

When you examined the scriptures very carefully you will come to the following conclusions

- That the finished work of the Cross is so far reaching, it cannot be annulled by the everyday sins of the average Believer. 1John 2:1...that you sin not. And if any amn sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.
- That when a person is truly Born Again there is first a Seal or mark placed on that Believer by the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 1:13) and the arrival of the Spirit causes your heart to know that you are adopted and loved by the Father Romans 8:15. Galatians 4:6
- That New Creation Believers are called, redeemed and justified so that we enter into the REST of God and cease from works, trying to 'earn' our salvation. Hebrews 3, 4:10
- That the term 'working out your salvation' has caused a lot of confusion where Believers think that your own efforts can some how add to the finished work of Christ. We understand this to mean LIVING OUT THE SALVATION FINISHED AND COMPLETED AT THE CROSS. (read lessons 2 and 3)
- There are a number of scriptures and principles however that still highlight the possibility of a Born Again Believer losing the GREAT SALVATION OF THE CROSS!
- *<sup>12</sup> Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; <sup>13</sup> but <sup>[b]</sup>exhort one another daily, while it is called "Today," lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. <sup>14</sup> For we have become*





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*partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end,*  
**Hebrews 3:12**

- An evil heart of unbelief hardened through the deceitfulness of sin can lead a born again believer to depart from the living God. This is what disallowed the 'believers by Grace' that were delivered by God from Egypt not to enter into Canaan. If you look at the parallels of God's great effort to deliver Israel from Slavery it is a type and shadow of the New Birth.
- The Prodigal Son left due to his choice and the Father did not stop him. If he hadn't returned, he would have died lost from the Father's love and restoration Luke 15
- *11 Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep<sup>[a]</sup> through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as We are. 12 While I was with them <sup>[a]</sup>in the world, I kept them in <sup>[a]</sup>Your name. Those whom You gave Me I have kept; and none of them is <sup>[a]</sup>lost except the son of <sup>[b]</sup>perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled.*  
**John 17:11-12**
- *Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, 2 not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of <sup>[a]</sup>Christ had come. 3 Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of <sup>[b]</sup>sin is revealed, the son of perdition, **2 Thess 2:1-3***
- *Now the Spirit <sup>[a]</sup>expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, **1 Tim 4:1***
- Just like Judas departed from Jesus, there are those who will depart from God in the last days...to fulfil Scripture.
- The Doctrine of The Book of Life shows that the saved names are written in the Book whilst those who are NOT saved are NOT written into that Book.
- **Exodus 32:32,33 (NKJV)**  
*32 "Yet now, if You will forgive their sin--but if not, I pray, blot me out of Your book which You have written." 33 And the LORD said to Moses, "Whoever has sinned against Me, I will blot him out of My book.*
- **Deuteronomy 9:14 (NKJV)**  
*14 'Let Me alone, that I may destroy them and blot out their name from under heaven; and I will make of you a nation mightier and greater than they.'*
- **Psalms 69:28 (NKJV)**  
*28 Let them be blotted out of the book of the living, And not be written with the righteous.*
- **Psalms 109:13 (NKJV)**  
*13 Let his posterity be cut off, [And] in the generation following let their name be blotted out.*
- **Revelation 22:19 (NKJV)**  
*19 and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall*



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*take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and [from] the things which are written in this book.*

- **Revelation 20:12,15 (NKJV)**

*12 And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is [the Book] of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. 15 And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.*

- **Revelation 17:8 (NKJV)**

*8 "The beast that you saw was, and is not, and will ascend out of the bottomless pit and go to perdition. And those who dwell on the earth will marvel, whose names are not written in the Book of Life from the foundation of the world, when they see the beast that was, and is not, and yet is.*

- **Revelation 13:8 (NKJV)**

*8 All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.*

- *He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not **blot out** his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels. **Revelation 3:5***

### Reference Scriptures

1 John 2:19 (KJV) They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would [no doubt] have continued with us: but [they went out], that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us.

2 Timothy 4:4 (KJV) And they shall turn away [their] ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

Luke 8:13 (KJV) They on the rock [are they], which, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, which for a while believe, and in time of temptation fall away.

Matthew 24:11 (KJV) And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.

Matthew 24:9 (KJV) Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake.

2 Peter 3:17 (KJV) Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know [these things] before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own stedfastness.

2 Thessalonians 2:3 (KJV) Let no man deceive you by any means: for [that day shall not come], except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;

1 Timothy 4:1-3 (KJV) 1 Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; 2 Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron; 3 Forbidding to marry, [and commanding] to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth.

2 Thessalonians 2:2 (KJV) That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand.



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2 Peter 2:20-22 (KJV) 20 For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. 21 For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known [it], to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them. 22 But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog [is] turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.

2 Peter 2:15 (KJV) Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam [the son] of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness;

Hebrews 10:26-29 (KJV) 26 For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, 27 But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries. 28 He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses: 29 Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?

Hebrews 6:4-8 (KJV) 4 For [it is] impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, 5 And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, 6 If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put [him] to an open shame. 7 For the earth which drinketh in the rain that cometh oft upon it, and bringeth forth herbs meet for them by whom it is dressed, receiveth blessing from God: 8 But that which beareth thorns and briers [is] rejected, and [is] nigh unto cursing; whose end [is] to be burned.

2 Timothy 4:4 (KJV) And they shall turn away [their] ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

2 Timothy 4:3 (KJV) For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;

2 Thessalonians 2:3 (KJV) Let no man deceive you by any means: for [that day shall not come], except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;

1 Corinthians 9:27 (KJV) But I keep under my body, and bring [it] into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

John 15:6 (KJV) If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast [them] into the fire, and they are burned.

Hebrews 3:12 (KJV) Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.

2 Peter 2:20-22 (KJV) 20 For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. 21 For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known [it], to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them. 22 But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog [is] turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.

Acts 1:16-18 (KJV) 16 Men [and] brethren, this scripture must needs have been fulfilled, which the Holy Ghost by the mouth of David spake before concerning Judas, which was guide to them that took Jesus. 17 For he was numbered with us, and had obtained part of this ministry. 18 Now this man purchased a field with the reward of iniquity; and falling headlong, he burst asunder in the midst, and all his bowels gushed out.