

NORTHEAST HOUSTON COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sermon: Can Our Salvation Be Lost? Part 1

Sermon: Salvation

Scripture Text: Matthew 13:36–43 (NKJV)

09/01/2019

“Salvation transaction – We give up all we have to receive all that Christ has for us.”

Matthew 13:36–43 (NKJV) 36 Then Jesus sent the multitude away and went into the house. And His disciples came to Him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the tares of the field.” 37 He answered and said to them: “He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. 38 The field is the world, the good seeds are the sons of the kingdom, but the tares are the sons of the wicked one. 39 The enemy who sowed them is the devil, the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are the angels. 40 Therefore as the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of this age. 41 The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness, 42 and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth. 43 Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!

One of the foundational pillars in Christianity related to Salvation is the Doctrine of Eternal Security.

Eternal security, also known as "once saved, always saved", is the belief that from the moment anyone becomes a Christian, they will be saved from hell, and will not lose salvation ever.

Can Our Salvation Be Lost?

Before we can answer the question, “can you lose your salvation?” we must be sure salvation was had in the first place.

What is salvation?

Salvation - preservation or deliverance from harm, ruin, or loss.

In Theology - deliverance from sin and its consequences, believed by Christians to be brought about by faith in Christ

Salvation is equated to being saved in the Bible. If we are saved then we are “saved” from the consequences of our sins which is death. (*Romans 6:23*). This salvation (being saved) further equates to having eternal/everlasting life)

Salvation is mentioned in the Bible over 140 times but I found only one mention by Jesus.

Luke 19:9–10 (NKJV) 9 And Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham; 10 for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.”

How is salvation obtained? Or How are we saved.

The foundation of salvation comes from God. It is First initiated by His love.

*John 3:16 (NKJV) 16 **For God so loved the world** that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.*

Romans 5:8 (NKJV) 8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Then by His grace we are saved through faith in the work of Jesus Christ, His sacrifice, death, burial and resurrection.

Ephesians 2:8–9 (NKJV) 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast.

We have access to salvation through faith and confession

*Romans 10:9–10 (NKJV) 9 **that if you confess with your mouth** the Lord Jesus **and believe in your heart** that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 **For with the heart one believes unto righteousness,** and with the mouth **confession is made unto salvation.***

How do you know you are saved?

Many people continually ask themselves the question as to “how do they know that they are saved. This is often born out of feelings of unworthiness. They slip and sin or they do not feel they measure up to others Christians.

The first thing I will say is, “Do Not Depend upon your feelings.” Just ask yourself, “how perfectly have your feelings been in the past?” if not perfect then do you want to depend on them for your future?

Some teachers will say that you cannot know by feelings but only by FACTS. Saying that the fact of the work of Jesus in God’s plan of salvation is what we should believe in. Well, true to a point, we have no initial quantitative proof of the Gospel of God or the Gospel of Jesus so our assurance has to **come from and be based on faith in the word of God.** What facts we do know or find out through archeological, and historical means are only to support our faith.

Remember, we are not saved by facts but by faith in the word of God we take as facts.

Feelings are the fruit of faith, not the source of it. So, when your feelings waver, retreat to the stronghold of faith. Don’t feel your way into your beliefs; believe your way into your feelings.

J.D. Greear, pastor of The Summit Church

There are some scriptural references to assure us.

1 John 2:3 (NKJV) 3 Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments.

*1 John 1:6–7 (NKJV) 6 If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. 7 **But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.***

*1 John 5:11–13 (NKJV) 11 And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. 12 **He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.** 13 These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.*

How can we tell if someone else is saved?

We cannot look into the heart of someone to determine whether or not he/she is saved, but there are two things we can examine: profession and actions.

*1 John 2:4 (NKJV) 4 He who says, “I know Him,” **and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.***

*1 John 2:29 (NKJV) 29 If you know that He is righteous, you know that **everyone who practices righteousness is born of Him.***

*1 John 3:6–9 (NKJV) 6 **Whoever abides (LIVES) in Him does not sin.** Whoever sins has neither seen Him nor known Him. 7 Little children, let no one deceive you. **He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous.** 8 He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil. 9 **Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God.***

This does not mean that a Christian will never sin but that a Christian will not “abide” / “live” in sin.

*John 13:34–35 (NKJV) 34 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. 35 **By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.**”*

We cannot be the absolute judge of who is saved or not.

In *Matthew 13:24–30* and explained in *Matthew 13:37–43* the parable is told about the wheat and the tares.

I am sure you know the story.

It pictures Satan’s efforts to devastate the church by mingling his children with God’s, in some cases making it impossible for believers to discern the true from the false.¹ (JM)

The owner of the field, representing Jesus, gave the following instructions.

*Matthew 13:28–30 (NKJV) 28 He said to them, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The servants said to him, ‘Do you want us then to go and gather them up?’ 29 But he said, **‘No, lest while you gather up the tares you also uproot the wheat with them.’** 30 Let both grow together until the harvest,*

¹ MacArthur, J., Jr. (Ed.). (1997). [*The MacArthur Study Bible*](#) (electronic ed., p. 1418). Nashville, TN: Word Pub.

and at the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, "First gather together the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them, but gather the wheat into my barn." ' ' "

This does not mean that if you know without a doubt that there is a wolf, an antichrist or a devil in the church that you should ignore it and let it be. A pertinent fact of the parable is that the "tares" and the "wheat" looked so much alike that it was hard to distinguish between the two.

When the false teachers, prophets, Christians are exposed the church is required to take action.

Next week we will discuss those that are truly saved and those that make a profession of faith even believing that they are save.

END

Message Scriptures: **Matthew 13:36–43**, *Romans 6:23, Luke 19:9–10, John 3:16, Romans 5:8, Ephesians 2:8–9, Romans 10:9–10, 1 John 2:3, 1 John 1:6–7, 1 John 5:11–13, 1 John 2:4, 1 John 2:29, 1 John 3:6–9, John 13:34–35, Matthew 13:24–30, Matthew 13:37–43,*

Did You Know?

Origin Of “Ben Hur”

Two infidels once sat on a railroad train, discussing the life of Christ. One of them said, “I think an interesting romance could be written about him.” The other replied, “And you are just the man to write it. Tear down the prevailing sentiment about His divinity, and paint Him as a man—a man among men.”

The suggestion was acted upon and the romance written. The man who made the suggestion was Colonel Ingersoll, the noted atheist. The writer was General Lew Wallace, and the book was called Ben Hur.

In the process of constructing the life of Christ, Gen. Wallace found himself facing the greatest life ever lived on earth. The more he studied, the more he was convinced Christ was more than man. Until one day, he was forced to cry “Verily, this was the Son of God!”²

² Tan, P. L. (1996). [*Encyclopedia of 7700 Illustrations: Signs of the Times*](#) (p. 276). Garland, TX: Bible Communications, Inc.

RESOURCES AND REFERENCES

In support of Eternal Security Doctrine

<https://jdgrear.com/blog/2-ways-to-know-you-are-saved/>

Eternal security - is it biblical

<https://www.gotquestions.org/eternal-security.html>

<https://billygraham.org/decision-magazine/april-2008/secure-forever/>

Five Truths About Eternal Security

<https://www.desiringgod.org/labs/five-truths-about-eternal-security>

Piper: "No one will be finally saved who does not continue in the faith."

<https://www.allaboutgod.com/once-saved-always-saved.htm>

<https://www.crosswalk.com/blogs/joe-mckeeever/7-questions-about-once-saved-always-saved.html>

<https://www.compellingtruth.org/once-saved-always-saved.html>

<https://www.ligonier.org/blog/can-christian-lose-their-salvation/>

"Whoever comes to me I will never cast out."

<https://str.typepad.com/weblog/2010/07/whoever-comes-to-me-i-will-never-cast-out.html>

Jesus Promised, "Him That Cometh to Me I Will In No Wise Cast Out" (even continuing sinners!)

By David J. Stewart | December 2013

http://www.jesusisprecious.org/articles/in_no_wise_cast_out.htm

In support of losing Salvation

<https://activechristianity.org/can-a-christian-lose-salvation>

<https://www.bible-knowledge.com/lose-your-salvation/>

<http://www.comereason.org/bible-verses-on-salvation.asp>