

Eternal Security of The Believer

Part 4 - What Happened At The Moment Of Salvation?

Introduction

I shall never forget the night I got saved, a thirteen year old mischievous boy who the speaker had to rebuke from the platform. Yet, within minutes, I was a child of God. What happened? I realized I was a sinner, Jesus died for me, and I accepted Christ as my Saviour. To me it was a decision I made, but what actually happened at that precise moment of time?

By saying, "I put my faith in Christ Jesus as the only way of salvation, depending on Him alone to save me from Hell, and take me to Heaven", that is not answering the question. That is informing of "how I received salvation", but not what spiritually happened. What "things" happened of which we were unaware at the moment of salvation? What changes were made in my essential being, nature, mind and spiritually?

God has said that: "A threefold cord is not quickly broken" (Ecc. 4:12). For my assurance of salvation and the blessedness of knowing that I shall never be cast into Hell, God gives me not one, or two, or three, but four very strong cords which can never dry out or fray, and are forever new. These four cords are:

- a) The Works of God of which there are at least twenty-two (see table below)
- b) The Works of Christ, of which there are at least eight (see table below)
- c) The Works of the Holy Spirit of which there are at least six (see table below)
- d) The Word of God of which there are multiples

Thus, Divine Persons became my Guarantors, but as with all Guarantors, they must have specific qualifications. A guarantor must be trustworthy and have the ability to be answerable to my deficiencies. An earthly guarantor who has the ability but cannot be trusted and relied on, is of no value, neither is one who can be trusted and not have the ability.

Therefore:

1) Is God the Father, able, and is He trustworthy?

Thank God He is able: "You who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed" (1 Pet. 1:5). Furthermore, He is trustworthy for He is: "the God of truth" (Isa. 65:16); "the God, that cannot lie" (Titus 1:2); and "the faithful God" (Deut 7:9). God fulfills the qualifications to be our Guarantor.

2) Is God the Son able, and is He trustworthy?

Is Christ able, and is He trustworthy? His ability is plainly stated: "He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him" (Heb. 7:25); "Now unto Him that is able to keep you from falling" (Jude 24). Regarding His trust worthiness, how could anyone doubt He who is "the truth" (Jn. 14:6), or "the Faithful Witness" (Rev. 1:5). Christ fulfills the qualifications to be our Guarantor.

3) Is God the Spirit able, and is He trustworthy?

Is God the Spirit able, and is He trustworthy? How beautifully His ability is emphasised, He is: "that Holy Spirit of promise" (Eph. 1:13). Concerning His trustworthiness, how could He who is constantly called, "The Holy Spirit" (Eph. 4:30), "The Spirit of holiness" (Rom. 1:4) ever deceive us in so important a matter? The Holy Spirit fulfills the qualifications to be our Guarantor.

Precious is the truth that guaranteeing our eternal salvation is the triune God. "All the promises of God in Him are yea, and in Him Amen" (2 Cor. 1:20).

- a) His character cannot permit a single pledge which He has given to fail (Josh. 23:14).
- b) His justice cannot permit deception of one solitary person (Job 34:12; 36:5).
- c) His truth cannot change a single iota of a covenant pledged (Lk. 1:68-72).
- d) His faithfulness cannot permit Him to disregard the pledges He has made to His failing people. (1 Thess. 5:24; Heb. 10:23)

Eternal Security of The Believer

Part 4 - What Happened At The Moment Of Salvation?

The Works of Divine Persons

1) The works of God regarding our salvation:

Chosen and elected by God	Eph. 1:4
Born of God	1 Jn. 3:9
Made alive	Eph. 2:1
Reconciled	2 Cor. 5:18
Adopted	Eph. 1:5
Received the gift of God	Eph. 2:8
Sanctified	Jude 1:1
Justified	Rom. 8:30
Kept	1 Pet. 1:5
We were called -predestination -justified -glorified	Rom. 8:28-30; Eph. 1:5
Made complete	Col. 2:10
Given as God's love gift to Christ	Jn. 17:9
Were made a new creation	2 Cor. 5:17
Put in God's hands	Jn. 10:29
God saved us	2 Tim. 1:9
God speaks to us	Jn. 6:45
We are made partakers of the purposes of God relative to the church	Eph. 3:6
Puts us in Christ	2 Cor. 5:17
Makes us accepted in the beloved	Eph. 1:6
Seats us with Christ in the heaven lease	Eph. 2:6
Makes us as he is, so are we	1 Jn. 4:17
Brought into peace with God	Rom. 5:1

Eternal Security of The Believer

Part 4 - What Happened At The Moment Of Salvation?

2) The works of Christ regarding our salvation:

He became my Deliverer and Redeemer	Col. 1:13-14
He began to work as my High Priest	Heb. 7:25
He began his work as my Advocate	1 Jn. 2:1-2
He baptized me in the Holy Spirit	Matt. 3:11
He mediated the new covenant by both as a covenant and a will. The covenant is effective when one is alive, whereas a will is effective only after one dies.	Heb. 9:15-18
He began holding me in His hand	Jn. 10:28
He became my Forerunner	Heb. 6:20
He became my Firstfruits	1 Cor. 15:23

3) The works of the Holy Spirit regarding our salvation:

Convicted us of sin	Jn. 16:8
The sanctification by the Spirit	1 Pet. 1:2 2 Thess. 2:13
Were made partakers of the Holy Spirit, that is we were in agreement with Him	Heb. 6:4
Sealed by the Holy Spirit (Lit. Upon believing ye were sealed)	Eph. 1:13 2 Cor. 1:22
Indwelt by the Holy Spirit	Jn. 14:17
Earnest of the Spirit	2 Cor. 1:22

4) The word of God:

“He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life”	Jn. 5:24
“He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life”	1 Jn. 5:12

Eternal Security of The Believer

Part 4 - What Happened At The Moment Of Salvation?

“I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish”

Jn. 10:28

Because of salvation:

a) We have been given:

- i) A life that is hidden with Christ in God (Col. 3:1)
- ii) Eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord (Rom. 6:23)
- iii) Peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ (Rom. 5:1)
- iv) The gift of salvation from God (Eph. 2:8-9)
- v) The assurer of future glory (Rom. 5:2)
- vi) Predestinated to the adoption of children (Eph. 1:5)
- vii) Liberty (Gal. 5:1)
- viii) Justification (Rom. 8:30)
- ix) Sanctification (1 Cor. 1:2)
- x) Eternal life (Jn. 10:28)
- xi) The promise of eternal inheritance (Heb. 9:15)

b) We have been made:

- i) Children of God (Rom. 8:16)
- ii) A new creation (2 Cor. 5:17)
- iii) Accepted in the beloved (Eph. 1:6)
- iv) Children of light (1 Thess. 5:5)
- v) Citizens of heaven (Phil. 3:20)
- vi) The righteousness of God (Rom. 3:22)
- vii) Complete in Him (Col. 2:10)
- viii) Seated in the heavenly places with Christ (Eph. 2:5-6)
- ix) Partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light (Col. 1:12)

c) We have been:

- i) Blessed with all spiritual blessings in Christ (Eph. 1:3)
- ii) Circumcised with the circumcision made without hands (Col. 2:11)
- iii) Put in the place of no eviction (Jn. 6:37)
- iv) Born of God (1 Jn. 3:9)
- v) Adopted children (Rom. 8:15)
- vi) Buried with Him in baptism (Col. 2:12)
- vii) Forgiven (Rom. 4:7)
- viii) Figuratively, placed on his shoulders (Lk. 15:5)
- ix) Spiritually quickened (Eph. 2:5)
- x) Reconciled (Rom. 5:10)
- xi) Redeemed (Eph. 1:7)
- xii) Saved from wrath (Rom. 5:9; 1 Thess. 1:10)
- xiii) Perfected for ever (Heb. 10:14)
- xiv) Put in the place of no condemnation (Rom. 5:1)
- xv) Put in God's hands (Jn. 10:29)
- xvi) Given as God's love gift to Christ (Jn. 17:9)
- xvii) Brought into a covenant relationship (1 Cor. 11:25)
- xviii) Brought near (Eph. 2:13)
- xix) Saved (Eph. 2:8-9)
- xx) Children of God by faith in Christ Jesus (Gal. 3:26)

Eternal Security of The Believer

Part 4 - What Happened At The Moment Of Salvation?

- d) We have:
 - i) Passed from death into life (1 Jn. 3:14)
 - ii) Translated out of the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of the Son of his love (Col. 1:12-14)
 - iii) Died unto sin (Rom. 6:2)
 - iv) Died unto the law (Rom. 7:4)
 - v) Been placed "in Christ" (1 Cor. 1:30)

Conclusion

For an individual to lose their salvation, the sin committed would have to be such that God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit could be proven to be incapable of keeping us, or dishonest. That will never happen.

The fact that there are many believers who do not have the assurance of eternal life, not that they are being awkward or plain stupid, but just as an unsaved person finds it hard to accept that salvation is completely without works, many saints find it hard to accept that the maintaining of salvation is not dependent on works. It may be because that is what they were taught from early days. It is hard to understand that they in all good faith and in conviction hold to this.

- 1) To lose my salvation, the gift of God:
 - a) Means that God would take back from me:
 - i) The Gift of His Son
 - ii) The Gift of His Holy Spirit
 - iii) The Gift of His Salvation
- 2) To lose my salvation:
 - a) All my sins would have to be resent to my account. I am back to being a guilty sinner, without hope!
 - b) Would mean that I have to become again, an avowed enemy of God, living in fellowship with Satan; so reverse God's reconciliation.
 - c) Would mean that the Holy Spirit would have to be removed from me and the old nature be in complete control.
 - d) Would mean that I must be taken out of being "In Christ" and put back in Adam.
 - e) Would mean that it all depends on me, and not on Divine Persons.
- 3) A precious reality:
 - a) The sacrifices were not given to be re-redeemed or redelivered, they could never lose their salvation, neither can we.

I give unto my sheep eternal life; and they shall never perish.

**May God grant us good understanding as He, by His Holy Spirit, deigns to guide us into all truth.
John 16:13**

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