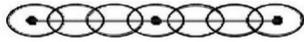


Can a New Testament, Born-again Believer lose their salvation



This study goes into detail to address many concerns, exposing lies and misconceptions, to bring confidence and assurance to the person who might be having such doubts. The study keeps a consistent theme of the fundamentals of God's Word. That God is love and He is good, He is longsuffering and merciful, He paid the greatest price of all when He sent His Son to the cross to save mankind, He has good thoughts and plans for us and that He wants no one to perish. The study addresses several areas and topics, such as:

1. Discussion of general concepts of our salvation
2. How we obtain our common salvation.
3. What transpired from our born-again conversion.
4. Realizing that we have an enemy on this earth that wants to rob us of every blessing.
5. Addressing Hebrews chapter six, that people may have difficulties with.
6. Real examples in the bible, giving us new hope

Every believer needs to understand and settle these issues in their mind. For if we have certain concerns and fears, thinking that if we slip-up we might be in danger of loosing our salvation. We will therefore also question God's character and have certain doubts about all of the other scriptural truths and promises in His Word.

Whenever the concern of someone loosing their salvation is brought up, one's performance and feelings are always added into the equation. Our feelings can lie to us, and our performance almost always falls short of what it should be. God made salvation available to all men while we where yet still sinners. We must realize that assurance of our salvation does not always come through our feelings, God's Word must be our source of truth, the just must walk by faith, **2nd Corinthians 5:7**.

Our performance (whether bad or good), has nothing to do with with us being eligible or ineligible for God's salvation. Our performance may be a factor in how we self-evaluate ourself, but don't confuse the fruit or lack thereof in your life or someones life with God's gift of salvation that is freely available to all mankind, **1st Timothy 2:4**.

When we truly comprehend that Christ die for all men and that God wishes that no not one should perish. The question of if you can loose your salvation almost become a non-issue, realizing that Christ's sacrifice on the cross was absolute and it was not conditionally based on our performance. Most believers agree that His finished work was unconditional for all men, only to later add a list of conditions that they must abide by to be true follows of Jesus Christ and bare fruit.

This concern of confirming your salvation or holiness by and through your works is not knew, the Apostle Paul also wrote to the Galatians concerning this issue

¹ O foolish Galatians, who has bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ has been evidently set forth, crucified among you? ²This only would I learn of you, Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? ³Are ye so foolish? having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh?
Galatians 4:1-3.

This scripture clearly addresses the issue: That we enter into salvation not by the keeping the law but rather by the hearing of faith and believing, and that is also how we must maintain our salvation. It is all about Jesus. It is not about our works, they are as filthy rags to God, **Isaiah 64:6**. It's not about our performance, it falls far short of what it should be. It is all about Jesus Christ whom we believe on and the finished work that He did for us.

Apart from Christ none of us are righteous within ourselves in the sight of a Holy God. The saving grace for every man is that Jesus Christ paid the price, and without believing in His finished work on the cross not even the best of us would be saved.

Further more the New Covenant that brought forth man's salvation was not made with man it was made between the Godhead for man. Hence man cannot break it, our part in the gift of salvation is simply to believe. God wants no not one to perish, but all to come to repentance, **2nd Peter 3:9**.

Also in the scriptures below Jesus makes statements telling us that no man can pluck thee out of His hand or His Father's hand and that He has lost none.

28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of My hand. 29 My Father, which gave them Me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of My Father's hand. 30 I and My Father are one, John 10:28-30.

That the saying might be fulfilled, which He spake, Of them which thou gave Me have I lost none, John 18:9.

Lastly, before we get further into the teaching; God wants us to live in His love, to have joy and enjoy His peace. If we are ever mindful that if we trip up, we might lose our salvation, how will we ever achieve peace with God or with ourself ?

Excepting the gift of God's salvation, is easy.

Romans 10:9, gives us two requirements:

That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God has raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved, Romans 10:9.

This scripture has two parts to it, the first part is to confess that Jesus Christ is the Son of God acknowledging Him as being the Lord of your life. The second part is to believe that God raised His Son from the dead. This is not addressing your personal worthiness, rather it is only talking about Jesus Christ (the Son of God), and that God raised His Son from the dead.

Becoming Born-again is not a feeling, it is a spiritual reality. It is about confessing and believing God's Word and not about confessing your feeling. For our feelings can lie to us, (up one day and down the next). That is why it's a good idea to make a note of the date of your conversion; God even gave this principle to the Israelites and ordered them to pick up twelve stones out of the middle of the Jordan river when they crossed over it on dry ground, so they and their children would have a remembrance of the crossing in the years to come, **Joshua 4:7**.

What actually transpired when you became born-again?

Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new, **2nd Corinthians 5:17**.

According to this scripture we have become a new creature, old things are passing away and all have become new. Much like the analogy of the butterfly coming forth out of his cocoon, almost as soon as the butterfly crawls out of that cocoon there is no going back into it. Then as the wings unfold and dry out and the body fills out, the butterfly realizes that a new life awaits him and he takes to the sky. We can only further speculate about the butterfly, but I don't see any trying to or wishing that they could crawl back into their old cocoon.

When Jesus said to Nicodemus you must be born-again to see the kingdom of God, **John 3:3**. He used the word born-again to make a point, rather than saying something such as, (you must make a decision for God). Just as in a physical birth, once you are born you cannot become unborn, no one would even question this. The same principle applies to our spiritual birth when we get born-again we cannot become unborn-again.

Our enemy, our adversary wishes to do us harm.

The reason that we need to discuss this is that if it weren't for our enemy, the accuser of the brethren, **Revelation 12:10**, there would be no reason to even address this issue.

The thief comes not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have *it* more abundantly, **John 10:10**.

We do have an enemy in this world, we must realize that spiritual oppression is a real concept. Our enemy, satan and his demons will hinder us anyway they can making us sick, depressed, fearful, etc. and if they can come against us and make us to doubt our salvation, they will do just that.

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walks about, seeking whom he may devour;, **1st Peter 5:8**.

And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, **Revelation 20:10a**.

Until the time when satan is bound and cast into the lake of fire, our adversary walks about seeking to kill, steal and destroy and he does all this through deception. Therefore:

Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil, **Ephesians 6:11**.

Neither give place to the devil, **Ephesians 4:27**.

Just because we don't see the oppression and the attacks of the enemy in this physical realm, does not mean that it not real. That is one of the tactics of the enemy, for you will not resist an enemy that you believe does not exist. However, God's Word has not left us defenseless against his attacks, it has equipped us with the wisdom and the tools to be victorious against the enemy.

For who has known the mind of the Lord, that He may instruct Him? But we have the mind of Christ, **1st Corinthians 2:16**.

But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, **Jude 1:20**.

And last of all; Never give up, keep fighting the good fight, **2nd Timothy 4:7**. Jesus did not say this life would be easy. At times it is messy and just downright hard, and that's when we need to lean not on our own understanding, **Proverbs 3:5**, and believe all of the promises in the Bible, simply because God spoke them.

Addressing Hebrews chapter six, that people may have difficulties with.

If a believer “backslide” falling back into the cares of the world, some of the more conscientious believers may begin to question within themselves if they have gone too far, wondering if they have lost their salvation? They usually then refer to Hebrews 6:6, and other select scriptures to give legitimacy to their doubts and fears.

Taking a closer view at the passage in Hebrews chapter 6. We see that the Apostle Paul wrote this passage to believers who were hypothetically going onto perfection, leaving the first principles in Christ behind unto higher understanding, if God permits.

¹ Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, ² Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. ³ And this will we do, if God permit. 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, **Hebrews 6:1-6**.

This passage has a safeguard and conditions that must be met before Hebrews 6:6 can even come into play 1). God must be willing to bring the believer into a higher level of understanding of His Word and. 2). The mature believer must have seen and achieved these five conditions, abilities and gifts.

1. Those who were once enlightened.
2. Having tasted of the heavenly gift.
3. That were made partakers of the Holy Ghost.
4. Having tasted the good word of God.
5. And of the powers of the world to come.

I believe this would be equivalent to a believer achieving a piece of God's heavenly realm, seeing and tasting of His glory, walking and operating in the power thereof, and then deciding that they preferred the darkened world that we live in better than God's heaven.

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Most likely the Apostle Paul had met these conditions having been taken up to the third heaven and granted great revelation and understanding, [2nd Corinthians 12:2-4](#). However, most believers, while here on this earth never achieve this, also this is not solely up to the believer but is also up to God to grant this. For, God has put safeguards into His plan for mankind, not to impede mankind, but rather to protect him. An example of another safeguard that we see in scripture is;

So He {God} drove out the man; and He placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life, [Genesis 3:24](#).

After man fell, God drove him out of the garden and placed a guard on the tree of life, so that man would not eat of it and live forever in a sinful fallen state. Likewise God has also put a safeguard on this for man's own good.

Hebrews 6:6 tells us ; “If they fall away, (*it is impossible*) to renew them again unto repentance.” This shows us that the believer who goes down this path is capable of hardened their heart beyond the point where they even desire to return to the Lord. For it is always the choice of the believer (man's freewill), whether one repents or not and God will not refuse one who repents, for He wants no not one to perish, but that all should come to repentance, [2nd Peter 3:9](#). We also need to keep in mind that this is not a final judgment, it is a warning, the final judgment will not come until we take our last breath.

Real examples in the bible, giving us new hope :

You may still feel that your case is beyond hope, that you have blown it so bad that God has just plain given up on you. First, let me say that this feeling is is one of false pride, thinking that you should meet the requirements of being righteous apart from Christ. “For all of us have sinned and come short of the glory of God, [Romans 3:23](#).” We just need to face it, we, in and of ourselves are not all that righteous and good, that is why we need a Savior, “For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast, [Ephesians 2:8-9](#).” Having said that, let's see if there are any people in the Bible who have gone through trials where this could have become a concern to them as well.

Moses a great leader, delivered the Israelites out of Egypt and then led the them through the wilderness. Moses, who spoke to God face to face, then at Meribah-Kadesh in the Wilderness of Zin, Moses ,[struck the rock \(twice\)](#) whereby God said to speak to the rock. Then God said to him, “Because ye believed Me not, to sanctify Me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore ye shall not bring this congregation into the land which I have given them, [Numbers 20:12](#),” and Moses died and was buried on mount Nebo, [Deuteronomy 32:49-51](#).

Imagine if you will Moses who spoke face to face with God, being then told this and that you will now die in the wilderness. This could have brought great concern to Moses, however know that Moses still went on with God. He was involved at the [transfiguration of Jesus](#), will perhaps be one of the two witness in Revelation and will definitely be up in heaven. Even though he did this and God reproved him, he still carried out his destiny and retain his salvation.

King David, a great man and [king over Israel for 40 years](#) did many great things, too abundant to tell here, however, he [took another man's wife and then killed her husband](#). When Nathan the prophet confronted David about this, he repented, however the consequence was that David lost the child born to him. This immoral action could have caused much concern to king David, both being reproved by a prophet and also having this known all through his kingdom. However, David went on after this serving God, he did not loose his salvation and we will see him up in heaven.

Whereby the shortcomings and the mistakes of the men and woman of the bible are not commonly pointed out, we know that they were not perfect people. The only perfect person we crucified nearly 2,000 years ago. Apart from Christ, non of us are worthy of heaven, but God through His Son has made us worthy. Giving us mercy rather than judgment and allowing us to walk and access His grace through faith.

The short and straight answer:

Once a person is in Christ Jesus and becomes a new creature, holding onto their desire for the things of God, they cannot lose their salvation.

Rather than using the term of loosing one's salvation, for this implies loosing something you wished you had not lost. The case of [becoming reprobate](#) and [rebuking](#) your salvation is addressed in Hebrews 6. We must understand that this is a rare case and is based on man's freewill to choose and is not based on one's performance.

As Hebrews chapter 6 says God Himself must allow that person to grow in wisdom and giftings. Then if you have meet all of the further prerequisites that Hebrews 6 states and if you then [purposely reject](#) God's glory, having tasted and operated in His power. You are in danger of hardening your heart to such a degree to where you no longer even want the salvation of the Lord that you once had.

And even though that person was once saved and had become a new creature in Christ, never meant to revert back to the old. God, respects man's freewill so much that He will allow that person to become as they wish, an old creature once again destined for destruction.

The person who is concerned about this issue and is seeking Christ for repentance, has not lost their salvation. For when one does become reprobate and rebukes the salvation that they once had. That person no longer seeks the lord, thus this is not even an issue for them.

I pray that theses points listed here have helped you, answering questions and brought new hope. Knowing that God is a good God, He wants us to walk in His peace and joy, and He wishes to bless us. If further confirmation on this subject is needed, ask the Holy Spirit, call unto Him and He will answer you and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knows not, [Jeremiah 33:3](#). Be open to Him, God did not give us His Holy Spirit to condemn us, but rather as our comforter and counselor to instruct us in the Word of truth.

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Summary:

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- As in a physical birth once you are born you cannot be unborn. Likewise once you are born-again you cannot, you were never meant to become unborn-again.
- We should not judge salvation on the fruit or lack thereof in our life or someone's life. Salvation is a gift of God it is not of works least anyone should boast, [Ephesians 2:9](#).
- Our sanctification is not a requirement for salvation. All of us by our own means fall far short of righteousness, thus God loved us and Jesus died for us while we were yet still sinners, [Romans 5:8](#).
- Even on a scripture such as Hebrews 6:6, that talks of someone falling away, God has put in place a safeguard for us. God is kind, merciful, He loves His people and He Has great plans for us, [Jeremiah 29:11](#), we need to trust Him.
- Man cannot break the New Covenant, it was not made with man it was made for man between the Godhead (Father, Son and Holy Spirit).
- Once we are in the Father's hand, no man can cause us to be separated, [John 10:29](#).
- Praise God, Our salvation is not of ourselves it is the gift of God. For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God: [Ephesians 2:8](#).