

ETERNAL SECURITY (31)

In systematizing data pertaining to salvation being solely of the Godhead, we may divide the work of God into three main categories:

Category #1 - Salvation cannot possibly be lost because salvation is a work of God the Father.

Under this category, we offer four proofs that clearly make the loss of salvation an impossibility:

(Proof #1) - True salvation is according to the sovereign purpose of God the Father.

The salvation of a soul is according to the sovereign purpose of God, **not** man. It is ridiculous to think that God the Father's sovereign purpose in salvation, which is obviously to save a sinner, could be thwarted or defeated by any human being. Such a thought is not only ridiculous, it is pure heresy.

Several passages speak of N.T. salvation being expressly the purpose of God the Father.

- 1) **Romans 8:29-30** - The entire process of salvation is according to the sovereign purpose of God.
- 2) **Ephesians 1:11-12** - God the Father is blessed (**1:3**) because of His saving, sovereign work.
- 3) **Ephesians 3:11** - God the Father brought His saving grace to Gentiles (**3:8**) because of His eternal purpose.

One who claims one may lose his salvation, totally neglects and denies the Biblical truth that N.T. salvation is rooted in the eternal purpose of God. Jesus Christ makes it very clear by direct statement that people come to faith in Him because of the purpose of God the Father - "All that the Father gives Me shall come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out" (**John 6:27**). In this verse, God the Son clearly states that it is God the Father who determines who comes to Christ, and when one does come to Christ he cannot ever be lost.

No matter how logical or reasonable a human argues, the truth of the Biblical revelation is that N.T. salvation is due to the eternal purpose of the Father, and once God the Father has brought one to the Son, that one cannot ever be lost. God the Father will not allow any to be lost who He has specifically brought to God the Son (**John 10:29**).

Because the salvation of a soul is due to the sovereign purpose of God the Father, it cannot ever be lost by finite sinful man.

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(Proof #2) - True salvation is according to the infinite power of God the Father.

Those who claim one may lose his salvation neglect the Biblical reality that **they were saved by the power of God, not by the power of self**. All who come to Christ have been ordained to come to Christ by the Omnipotent God whose power is absolute and subject to no one. No human being is capable of undoing anything accomplished by the power of God. It was God, by His power, who convicted the individual of his need for salvation. Man does not come to conviction on his own. It was God, in His power, who brought the person's alienated, dark and depraved mind to the realization that he needed Christ. It was God, in His power, who gave man the faith to believe and to be saved. The salvation of a soul is a powerful work of the Sovereign God and it will never be undone by any man.

The N.T. is filled with passages that emphasize this reality:

- 1) **John 10:29** - God the Father is a greater power than "all," and He is the One who brought one to Christ and protects them in Christ.
- 2) **Romans 4:21** - The context of this verse is extremely important for the verse specifically claims that God is powerful enough to perform what He has promised. The context is a salvation by faith, not works, context (4:5). The point is that if a person believes on Christ and does no good works at all, his faith would be counted as righteousness and would be enough to save the individual. The precise point of 4:21 is that God will do what He has promised, namely give eternal life to one who believes on His Son. He is "able" which literally means He is powerful enough, mighty enough, and strong enough to perform what He has promised.
- 3) **Romans 8:31, 38-39** - The entire context of the passage clearly stresses that there is nothing that is able to separate one who has been predestined, called and justified (8:30) from God. God's power protects the saved person forever; he is guaranteed eternal life.
- 4) **Romans 14:4** - The primary point of the passage is that God is strong enough to make His own children stand. The immediate context is gray areas. Obviously, in some instances, it is gray area issues that have been used as a basis for judging another believer as to whether or not he is saved or right with God. Paul's point is God is able to make him stand regardless of the gray area or what another individual thinks.
- 5) **Ephesians 3:20** - This verse comes after a lengthy discussion of N.T. salvation, which begins in chapter 1. In that discussion, Paul demonstrates that salvation is from the blessed God (1:3), by His amazing Grace (2:8-9), gives us access directly to Him (2:18), makes us part of His family (2:19) and part of His body (3:6). All of these things are benefits given by God to one whom He has saved. Paul, in this verse (3:20), ends this section with the statement that God is powerful enough to do above and beyond that which we think or ask. From what Paul has just written, we already know we have been saved by the Blessed God, we have been saved by His Grace, we have direct access to God, and we are in God's family, and we are part of His body. With all these benefits, what more could God do for us?

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- 6) **II Timothy 1:12** - Paul had full confidence that God was powerful enough to guard and protect his own soul. Paul certainly had acknowledged that he was a sinner; in fact, at one point he called himself, as a believer well-advanced in his spiritual years, the “foremost of sinners” (**I Timothy 1:15**). As Paul neared the end of **II Timothy** and was thinking about going into eternity (**4:6-8**), his comfort for his eternal security was not in the works of himself, but in the delivering power of God (**4:18**). He knew God had the power to save Him in spite of the evil he had done, and Paul found his own eternal comfort in God’s power. It is interesting to note that Paul recognized he was a sinner until the very day he went to be with the Lord.
- 7) **Hebrews 7:25** - The precise point of this verse is that God has the power to save one forever who has believed on Jesus Christ. It is a permanent salvation that cannot be lost (**7:24**).
- 8) **Jude 24** - The glorious doxology of Jude is that God, by His power, is able to eternally keep the N.T. believer. Jude clearly differentiates between those without the Spirit (**verse 19**) and those with the Spirit (**verse 20**). Those who have believed on Christ, have the Spirit of God and that Spirit of God guarantees that one is forever and eternally saved (**Ephesians 1:13**).

To suggest that one can lose his salvation is to deny not only the written revelation of God, but also the eternal power of God. One who holds to this position does not, will not, and cannot bring glory to God.

(Proof #3) - True salvation is according to the infinite love of God the Father.

One of the great failures of the Arminian is the failure to grasp the true character of God. Not only does this lead to a distortion of God’s Person, but also of God’s salvation.

God is an infinite God. He is a God who cannot be limited by anyone or anything. The only limits that are on God are those He, Himself, chooses to place upon Himself. The Bible makes it clear that certain attributes of God are absolutely unlimited. For example, God’s power and understanding are infinite (**Psalms 147:5**). There are no limits to God’s power or knowledge. The Bible also makes it clear that this is also true when it comes to God’s love (**Ephesians 3:19**). In fact, to begin to comprehend the love of God is something that is even greater than knowledge (**Ephesians 3:19**), faith or hope (**I Corinthians 13:13**).

We might ask which would be the infinite way to demonstrate the love of God? **A.** To save one and let them go when they sin? **B.** To save one and keep them in spite of their sin? The love of God is something that far surpasses any human love, for none of us would permit our own son to die for those who mock us, reject us, and hate us, if we had anything to say about it. Just as it would be ludicrous to think that a father, who loves his child, would or could eliminate his child from being his child, it is far more ludicrous to assume that our God, who loves His children, would or could eliminate them from being His children. This thinking is heretical.