

# Personal Evangelism

John 16:7-11

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(8)  
(Continuation from 06/02/12)

## The Message: God's Plan of Salvation, John 16:7-11

### *Section II. Eternal Life*

#### **Eternal security is not a separate doctrine from salvation.**

If you are not saved forever, you are not saved.

Those who think they are saved now but could lose their salvation later, have one of **two problems**: (1) either they are trusting to some degree in their works to save them, or (2) they do not understand that by trusting Christ as their Savior, their destiny is in God's hands. Perhaps they have had little or no Bible teaching and do not realize that God has determined that all who believe will go to heaven when they die.

The first groups, those who think leading a poor Christian life will result in a loss of their salvation, actually need to have the plan of salvation made clear to them. Somewhere they have not fully understood that Christ's death paid for ALL their sin, that their works have NOTHING to do with their salvation, and that only their FAITH IN CHRIST will save them. You would answer their questions just as you would almost any lost person's; it is a clear—cut problem of “**grace and works.**” You just stay with the gospel until they see the light.

An illustration that has clarified the issue for many with this problem deals with the definition of the word “**Savior.**” What is a Savior? Suppose you are drowning. There you are out in the middle of the ocean. Suppose someone were to throw you a book, *Three Easy Lessons on How to Swim*. Would he be a *Savior*? No! Perhaps he could be called an “**educator.**”

Now suppose a man got out of his boat, jumped in alongside you, and demonstrated various swimming strokes showing you just how you ought to do it. Would he be a *Savior*? Of course not. He would merely be an “**example.**”

All right, what if he took you into his boat, dried you off, fed you, took you ten miles from shore—and then threw you out again into the ocean? Would he be a *Savior*? By all means, no! He would be as a “**deceiver,**” a “**probation officer,**” one who starts a heroic act and then quits right in the middle. He *certainly* would not be a *Savior*!

A Savior is one who takes you safely all the way to shore! When God says He gives

you eternal life and that He will never cast you out or lose you, He means it because He is the true *Savior*! If you do not trust Christ to take you *all the way to heaven*, then you have not trusted Him as your *Savior*.

Let's examine Christ's own promise in [John 6:37](#):

**John 6:37 (NASB)**

<sup>37</sup> "All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me *I will certainly not cast out*."

He says those who come to Him will not be cast out *for any reason*.

To bring home this truth, use an illustration from family life. What kind of a parent would you be if, when your child was disobedient, you kicked him out and said, "Go to hell, I'm through with you!" Rather, the proper parent says, "Come on *in*!" and the parent has ways and means to deal with the disobedient child.

God *never* casts out His children! God has other ways and means to deal with them, which we will discuss in **Part Three**.

Some would say, "All right, God won't cast me out, but I could get out of my own will and choice." The Lord anticipated such doubts and answers them clearly in [John 6:39](#):

**John 6:39 (NASB)**

<sup>39</sup> "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."

It is *God's will* that *no* saved person would ever become lost. He says He will "*lose nothing*," and you are at least *something*! You could never be saved and lost again. God saves you forever. This is HIS will!

In witnessing you should use only as many verses as are necessary for the person to see the truth. (Too many verses will confuse the person.) On this point of not losing salvation, you will usually find that [John 6:37](#) and [John 6:39](#) are sufficient. They are certainly clear.

At times you might sense that certain cases require additional verses, and the Scriptures abound with clear teaching. Study the passages thoroughly so you will know which verses will best answer the need of the person.

**1 Peter 1:4-5 (NASB)**

<sup>4</sup> *to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,*

<sup>5</sup> *who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.*

Notice who is keeping our salvation... God Himself, by His own almighty power! And He is *reserving* place in heaven for us.

**1 Corinthians 6:19 (NASB)**

<sup>19</sup> **Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?**

The Holy Spirit lives inside of every believer.

**John 14:16-17 (NASB)**

<sup>16</sup> **"I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever;**

<sup>17</sup> **that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you.**

The Holy Spirit is in believers *forever*. If a saved person could go to hell, the Holy Spirit would have to go to hell, too.

**Ephesians 1:13-14 (NASB)**

<sup>13</sup> **In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise,**

<sup>14</sup> **who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory.**

The Holy Spirit indwells every believer from the moment he trusts Christ as his Savior for evermore. One important reason for this is to keep us saved and protected until we receive our glorified body. The term **"pledge of our inheritance"** is like when we make a "down payment on a house." It is a *guarantee* that the rest is coming later—*now* we have the new birth—*later* we will have our new body.

**1 Corinthians 12:27 (NASB)**

<sup>27</sup> **Now you are Christ's body, and individually members of it.**