

Doctrine of the Believer's Assurance of Salvation

Part 1

Arguments for Assurance

The assurance of the believer's final preservation may be confirmed by several Scriptural passages that set forth the love of Christ for His people as well as the relationships the believer shares with the Saviour. From these relationships come strong arguments for eternal salvation.

1. The love of God assures the believer of eternal security.
 - *Romans 8:31 What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? 32 He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things? 33 Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth. 34 Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us. 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? 36 As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. 37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. 38 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, 39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*
2. The believer is part of the Body of Christ and that provides assurance of eternal salvation.
 - *1 Corinthians 12:12 For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. If a person could be finally and forever lost then the Body of Christ would be mutilated.*
3. Christ is the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd protects and defends His sheep from all harm including the loss of salvation,
 - *John 10:11 I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.*
4. The Church is called the Bride of Christ. If a person could be forever and finally lost then there would be a great blemish on the bride of Christ.
 - *Ephesians 5:22 Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.*
5. The Church is called the branches of the Vine.

- *John 15:5 I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.*

If the branches could be removed from the vine then the essential unity would be lost.

6. The Church is called a building and Jesus is the Chief Cornerstone.

- *1 Peter 2:4 To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious, 5 Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ. 6 Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded. 7 Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner, 8 And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed.*

If the saint could be finally and forever lost then the building would be incomplete.

7. Jesus Christ acts as High Priest for His people. Jesus continues to intercede for His people.

- *Romans 8:34 Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.*
- *Hebrews 7:25 Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.*

It is inconceivable that the prayer of Christ will go unanswered.

8. Jesus Christ is the King of a royal nation.

- *1 Peter 2:9 But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light:*

9. Christ has a responsibility to protect and secure the citizens of His kingdom.