

FUNDAMENTAL FACTS FOR FAITHFUL FOLLOWERS

Lesson Eighteen

UNCONDITIONAL ETERNAL SECURITY

(continued)

TAKE HEED , **BRETHREN**, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.

Hebrews 3:12

How can anyone depart from the living God if they were not with Him?

Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)

Hebrews 10:23

*But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, **KEEP YOURSELVES** in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.*

Jude 1:20-21

Many are confused about the difference between **WORKS** and **SIN**. They think that to **ABSTAIN** from sin is trusting in our good works to get us to heaven. This is not so!

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

The fact that we cannot be saved by our own good works is **BEYOND** dispute to the true child of God. We can **NEVER** make ourselves good enough to save ourselves. We **MUST COME** as a sinner. As one hymn writer put it :

*Nothing in my hand I bring,
Simply to Thy cross I cling.*

It is **AFTER** we are born again, that works begin.

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

Ephesians 2:10

As a class, read together, aloud, I Corinthians 3:10-15.

So many have misinterpreted I Corinthians 3:10-15 to mean that if we have sin in our lives, we will still go to heaven, but our rewards will be lost. Paul is not talking **ABOUT SIN**, he is talking of working **CARNAL WORKS** with a carnal motive.

Sinners **DO NOT** enter heaven as **SAINTS**. Sinners **CANNOT** inherit eternal life.

*Know ye not that the unrighteous **SHALL NOT** inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind,*

*Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall **INHERIT THE KINGDOM OF GOD.***

1 Corinthians 6:9-10

Oh, what a disastrous mistake to **BELIEVE** we can be saved and continue to **PRACTICE** sin, and **THEN** inherit eternal life.

Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,

Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,

*Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things **SHALL NOT INHERIT** the kingdom of God.*

Galatians 5:19-21

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I read in the religious magazine of an internationally known T.V. evangelist the following words, and I quote, “In attempting to define holiness, there is the tendency to look at a person, an individual, and this is error. **There is no such thing as personal holiness.** Any measure of holiness we may have is because God has chosen to give it to us, freely and as a gift. **It is all of God — and none of us.**”

How can this brilliant man miss so many scripture references that prove part of holiness is our doing?

Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us CLEANSE OURSELVES from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, PERFECTING HOLINESS in the fear of God.

2 Corinthians 7:1

Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance:

But as he which hath called you is holy, so BE YE HOLY in all manner of conversation;

Because it is written, BE YE HOLY; for I am holy.

1 Peter 1:13-16

Why does God COMMAND us to be holy if it is none of our doing?

Then this world-famous evangelist goes on to say, “Even if our conditional holiness doesn’t come up to our positional holiness (provided we do not reprobate ourselves) we will still be saved, but our works will be burned.”

Can he not see, this PENTECOSTAL minister, that he is teaching eternal security?

I do not point out the preceding to be harsh or unkind, but rather, I see the SNARE in which he is leading millions.

Many times the example is given of our NATURAL children still being our children no matter how evil or wicked they become. After all, we are still their father and they our children. Let me point out a great truth here.

There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day:

And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores, And desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores.

And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried;

And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.

And he cried and said, FATHER ABRAHAM, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.

But Abraham said, SON, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented.

Luke

16:19-25

PLEASE NOTICE, the rich man in hell called Abraham, “Father Abraham.” Father Abraham called the rich man, “Son.” But, Abraham was still in PARADISE, and the rich man was still in HELL.

Let’s stop using foolish, made-up examples to attempt to prove a FALSE DOCTRINE. Let’s believe the truth and use the word of God to destroy false doctrine.

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(For the weapons of our warfare are not CARNAL, but MIGHTY through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

CASTING DOWN imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ; **2 Corinthians 10:4,5**

The following are just a few of many scripture references that plainly warn that a person can lose his eternal salvation: John 15:6; Romans 1:21-28; I Corinthians 9:27; I Timothy 5:14,15; II Timothy 2:12; James 5:19,20; II Peter 2:20-22.

Those who teach unconditional eternal security would have us believe those who go back into sin were really never saved. I believe that is TRUE in MANY cases. Some people DO NOT receive a valid conversion experience. Many make a decision, a start, a good start, but are not really BORN of the Spirit of God. They put on GOOD WORKS, HONESTLY, sincerely. However, because it is HUMAN EFFORT, without being born of the Spirit, it will not stand the test.

The fact of the matter is this: when God saves us, as far as HE is concerned, we are saved FOR ALL eternity. He never INTENDS for us to backslide. Much of the backsliding, or falling away, is the result of the mentality the Church has received through years of negative teaching and preaching.

By negative, I mean the idea that we all HAVE TO SIN a little every day; that backsliding, or growing cold spiritually, is a NORMAL and EXPECTED phase of the Christian life that we cannot help. This teaching is sheer nonsense and is NEITHER scriptural nor intelligent.

So many Christians are living in an up and down, in and out, half-defeated, half-victorious Christian life because of this preaching they have heard, and the lives they have observed have taught them that this is the normal Christian life.

But to teach that you **cannot** be lost is to ignore volumes of scripture.

Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times SOME shall DEPART FROM the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;

1 Timothy 4:1

A person cannot depart FROM the faith if he has never been IN the faith.

Praise God, we can be saved! We can have security! But that security depends on the relationship we maintain with Christ after we are born into God's family.

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

1 John 1:7

I promise you, God's grace will keep you if you want to be kept. But you must want to be kept. **THE DECISION IS YOURS!**

As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed. **Galatians 1:9**